

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD

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A Librarian's Calendar

August 25th.—A.A.L. Correspondence Courses: closing date for revision courses (see p. 287).

September 4th-8th.—I.F.L.A. Conference, Edinburgh.

September 18th-22nd.—L.A. Annual Conference, Hastings.

September 28th-October 4th.—Anglo-Scandinavian Conference and Study Tour.

September 30th.—A.A.L. Correspondence Courses: closing date for full-length courses (see p. 287).

September 30th.—Brighton School of Librarianship Old Students' Association, 5th Annual Reunion Dinner, Royal Pavilion Hotel, Brighton, 6.45 for 7.15 p.m. (Remittances 14s. 6d. to Miss W. Mitchell, 2 Dannfields, Dane Road, Seaford, Sussex.)

October 4th.—Northern Branch meeting, Wallsend. Report of Survey of Public Library use by students of the Newcastle School of Librarianship. Speaker for other session to be arranged.

October 6th-8th.—Joint Conference of Northern Branch, A.A.L. North East Division, R.I. and S.L. Northern Group, etc., at Whitby, Yorkshire.

October 9th-18th.—International Conference on Cataloguing Principles, Paris.

October 18th-20th.—L.A. Committees and Council.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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FICTITIOUS BEASTS

A Bibliography by Margaret W. Robinson

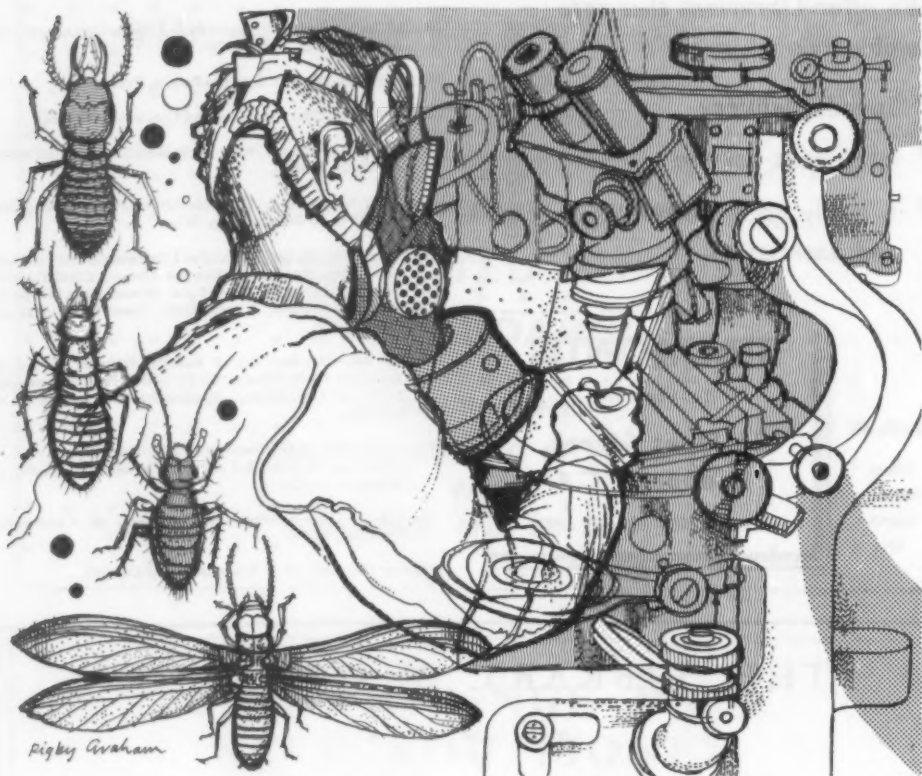
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OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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(Abstracted in *Library Science Abstracts*)

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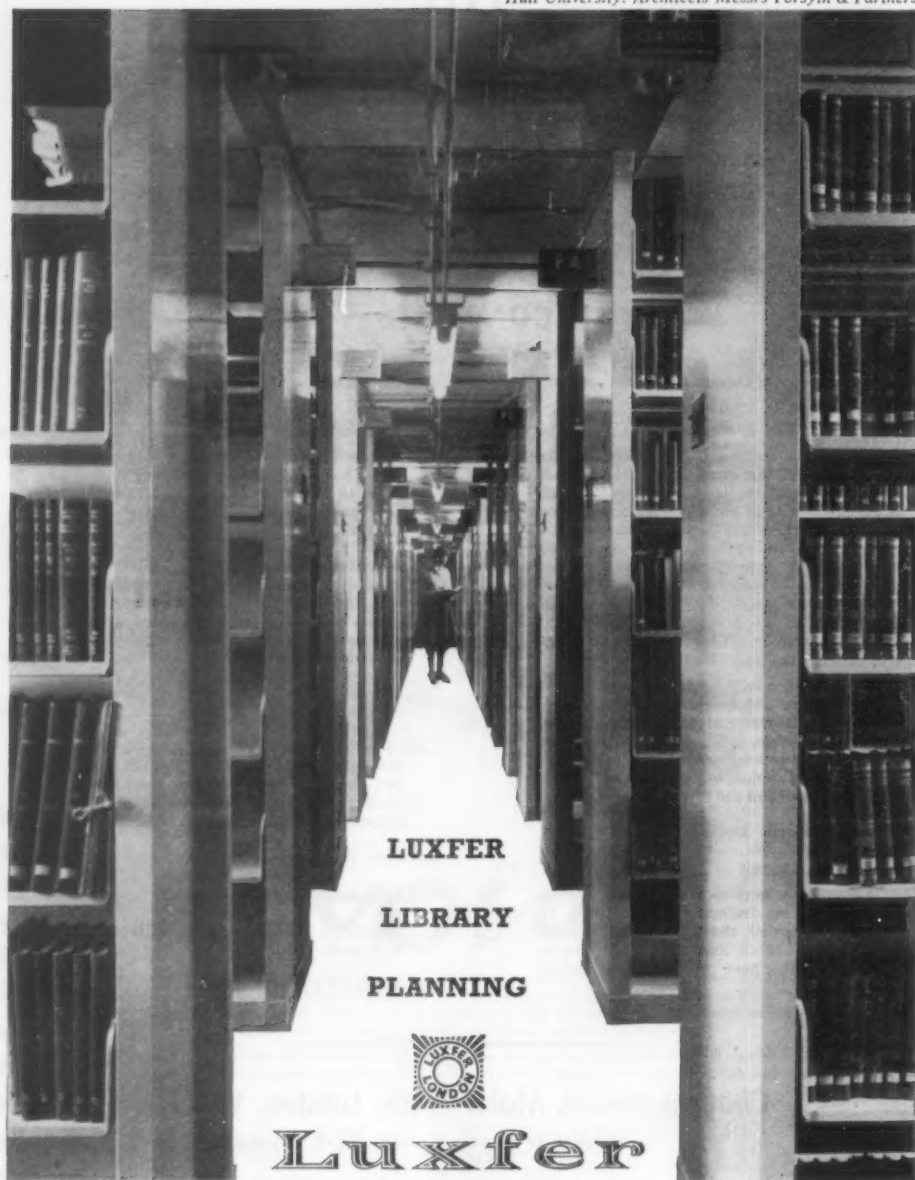
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Vol. 63 No. 8

August 1961

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THE USE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

B. C. Vickery, M.A.

Principal Scientific Officer, National Lending Library for Science and Technology

"IN order to improve the dissemination of scientific information and to design more effective reference tools and services, we need to have a more complete understanding of the weaknesses and strengths of the present pattern of scientific communication . . ." These words opened the introductory statement to Area I of the International Conference on Scientific Information, and were followed by a dozen or more papers reporting studies on the use of scientific literature.

These papers, together with a quantity of earlier contributions, have provided us with a fair volume of knowledge on what scientists read and how they acquire information. In the article which follows I hope to set out some of the lessons to be learnt from an examination of this material. First I list briefly the methods which have been used to study the problem, and then go on to examine the relative importance of reading, the kinds of information sought by scientists, and its scattered nature, the forms of document used and their age and language, and the sources of references. Throughout, I take "science" to include medicine, agriculture and technology.

The figures I give are approximate, representing only an average pattern of use. In a more detailed study it will be necessary to take into account variations by subject field, by types of information sought (data, technique, theory, etc.) and by types of user—fundamental researcher, applied researcher, technologist, teacher, journalist, historian, layman. Professor Bernal at the International Conference urged the need for statistical breakdowns of user surveys along these lines, and this should be borne in mind when considering the results reported in this article.

Methods of study

Four main methods of studying what literature scientists use have been reported. (Works referred to here briefly are listed in full at the end.)

(a) The analysis of records compiled for other purposes: e.g., reference counts of citations at the ends of papers (summarized by Stevens, additional examples are Munn, Coile, Louttit and

Brown); similar counts of citations in bibliographies (Hopp); analysis of library loan records (Barnard, Urquhart); examination of reference questions (Herner, Cole); analysis of abstracts (Bradford), and of lists of journals (Lloyd).

(b) Diaries and questionnaires to be completed by users at the actual time of reading sample items of literature (Bernal, Urquhart, Hogg and Smith, Glass, Fishenden, Shaw, Thorne, Menzel).

(c) Questionnaires recording users' opinions and estimates of their reading (Hertz and Rubenstein, Maizell, Moss, Scott, Herner, Tornudd).

(d) An observational study of how scientists actually spend their time (Halbert and Ackoff).

Each of these methods has weaknesses, and each has been criticized (e.g., by Brodman, Shaw, Tornudd, Taube), but we cannot doubt that the general pattern of use which they reveal approximates to the truth. Let us now examine some typical results provided by these studies, and any conclusions that can be drawn from them.

The relative importance of reading

There is an immense volume of scientific and technical literature. Brodman and Taine put the 1957 output of medical articles at over 200,000. *Chemical Abstracts* during 1907-57 printed over two million references. These sample figures give some idea of the literary output, which is, moreover, increasing at an exponential rate. How much time has the scientist to read it?

Several studies (Bernal, Shaw, Thorne) have indicated that British and American workers in research establishments spend 4 to 5 hours a week reading scientific and technical documents. Halbert and Ackoff made an observational study of 1,500 U.S. chemists, and established that during a 90-hour week (including weekends and evenings) the average chemist spent only 3½ hours reading scientific material, compared with 5½ hours in general discussion with scientific colleagues (see note to reference). These are only average figures—some scientists spend twice or even thrice as much time reading.

These results give us some quantitative measure of the importance of reading relative to the other activities on which the scientist spends his time—discussion, writing, experimental work, thinking, administration. A few studies have provided qualitative estimates of this relative importance. Herner, for example, asked U.S. medical scientists what were their sources of ideas for research projects. Some mathematical manipulation of his results suggests the answer: from our previous work 40 per cent, from other people 35 per cent, from reading 25 per cent.

Again, Scott asked technologists in the British electrical and electronics industry how they got most of their ideas. The answers can be expressed: from reading 33 per cent, from thinking 23 per cent, from observation or experiment 13 per cent, from discussion 31 per cent. Moss studied managers, supervisors and development engineers in British electrical firms and asked two questions: (a) what is your first step in solving a problem? Some practical action 55 per cent, discussion 27 per cent, reading 12 per cent, thinking 6 per cent; (b) how do you get most of your ideas? From reading 38 per cent, thinking 26 per cent, practical action 15 per cent, discussion 15 per cent. Both Scott's and Moss's technologists believed that reading provided more ideas than discussion, but Moss's electricians, like Halbert's and Ackoff's chemists, spent much more time talking about their problems than reading about them.

A study of U.S. engineers by Hertz and Rubenstein also revealed the inclination of the technologist to receive oral rather than written communication. On asking, what are the most important sources of information on how to do your jobs, the average ranking was: (1) senior colleagues, (2) desk reference books, (3) colleagues at the same level, (4) the library, (5) junior colleagues.

What can we conclude from these studies? Would scientists do more effective research if they talked less and read more? A study by Maizell has indicated that the most "creative" chemists spend more time reading. How much more time should be spent (clearly not all their time)? What should they give up in favour of reading? We do not know the answers to these questions. We have no quantitative idea of the value of reading to research.

The information sought

Several studies of sample literature use have asked readers to state why they were reading the item (Bernal, Shaw, Urquhart). A roughly equal

distribution of interest between facts, methods, ideas and "general interest" has been the answer. More precise evidence for the variety of information sought has been provided by analyses of reference questions.

Studying questions put to the information services of 14 U.S. atomic energy establishments, the HERNERS found 82 per cent of them to be scientific or technical. These they analysed as follows:

	Per cent
Description of a process or method of procedure	25.5
Physical, chemical, and engineering properties of substances	24.6
Description of apparatus or equipment	16.8
Physical and chemical constants	16.4
Biological effects of substances: Hazards: Toxicology	5.8
Radiation effects	2.9
Materials for specific applications	2.6
Composition of materials	1.4
Standards and specifications	1.2
Technical definitions	1.2
Description of meteorological or geological phenomena	1.0
Mathematical constants and methods	0.5

Cole has made a similar analysis of 410 enquiries in petroleum industry, with the following results:

	Per cent of total questions
A. Information for direct use:	
1. Operating information:	
(a) Methods of operating plant and equipment	11
(b) Types of plant and equipment: properties of materials: design and performance of plant	33
(c) Safety precautions	2
(d) Legal requirements	1
(e) Standardization of equipment, materials, and procedures	1
2. Basis for management decisions, evaluation of prospects, etc.	6
3. Planning forward requirements	3
4. Technical customer relations	9
5. Patent and trademark purposes	2
6. Evidence to support arguments advanced in discussion or disputes with outsiders	1
7. Direct comparison with non-company operations	5
B. Information for indirect use:	
1. Purely educational purposes	7
2. "Briefing" in relation to developments which may become the focus of attention in the near future	8
3. "Briefing" prior to a discussion, visit, etc.	5
4. Facts for use in "rounding out" write-ups of all sorts	2

These studies show the variety of types of subject sought in the scientific literature. Other studies show a wide dispersion of subject interest.

Stevens has summarized as below the results of analysing references cited by authors at the end of their papers. The allocation of references to "special subject", "closely related" and "other" is, of course, rather arbitrary. In chemistry, for example, only chemical publications were included among those relating to "special subject", those in other pure sciences were considered to be "closely related", while technological publications were put in "other" fields. Again, in the engineering subjects, all other aspects of engineering were regarded as "closely related". Some figures from Coile for electrical engineering are included in the table.

Subject field	Date of study	Percentage of references in		
		Special subject	Closely related	Other
Chemistry	1939	71	19	10
Physics	1939	63	25	12
Biochemistry	1938	34	55	11
Metallurgical engineering	1947	61	16	23
Mechanical engineering	1947	27	60	13
Soils	1947	14	47	39
Dairying	1947	39	11	50
Electrical engineering	1949	35	34	31

As Stevens points out, subject dispersion is less marked in those pure sciences that have well-defined limits and established special literatures (chemistry, physics, geology, astronomy). It is higher for the younger sciences and for the technologies which depend on the literature of parent sciences.

Scatter through journals

The spread of interest over a wide field of scientific subjects has the further consequence that scientists refer to a great variety of journals. The wide range consulted in the course of research has been shown by the method of reference-counts. In the following table, studies 1 to 7 refer to counts of this kind, compiled from figures given by Stevens, Coile and Munn.

Study	Subject field	Date of study	Percentage of titles containing references			
			1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1.	Chemistry	1927	0.8	2.0	7.2	90
2.	Chemistry	1939	0.75	3.05	10.2	86
3.	Physics	1939	0.75	1.5	10.75	87
4.	Biochemistry	1938	0.35	1.05	5.1	93.5
5.	Biochemistry	1954	1.1	2.1	—	—
6.	Bacteriology	1954	1.0	4.0	—	—
7.	Electrical engineering	1949	1.0	5.0	12	88
8.	Applied geophysics	1934	1.5	6.8	17.7	74

9.	Lubrication	1934	4.3	8.7	25	62
10.	Tissue culture	1953	1.5	7.0	32.5	59
11.	Helium	1947	0.9	2.4	13.5	83
12.	L.S.H.	1931.5	6.2	9.8	18	66
13.	Petroleum	1958	2	5	16	75

In the first study, for example, a quarter of the references counted occurred in the two most productive journals cited, this representing 0.8 per cent of the total number of titles; a second quarter occurred in another five journals, 2.0 per cent of the total; a third quarter occurred in a further 7.2 per cent of the titles, and the remaining references were scattered over 223 journals, 90 per cent of the total. This pattern is quite typical of the first seven studies; a quarter of the relevant references is concentrated in one, two or three very productive journals, 1 per cent or less of the total number of titles consulted, but the last quarter is scattered over several hundred marginal titles.

The earliest study of this kind was made in 1927 by P. L. K. Gross and E. M. Gross, but the phenomenon was examined mathematically by S. C. Bradford, who, in 1934, enunciated a "law of scattering". The figures for the eighth and ninth lines in the table are compiled from his work. They differ from the previous studies in that they are the result of counting references, not at the end of research papers, but in current bibliographies of their subjects compiled by scanning a large number of journals at the Science Museum Library, London. They therefore relate to titles which actually contain papers on a given subject, rather than to titles to which authors have found it useful to refer when writing about that subject. In Bradford's case, references are distributed rather more evenly over the titles cited. In *Lubrication* one-quarter of the references is included in 4.3 per cent of the total number of titles—representing six or seven productive journals, instead of only two or three as in the previous studies. Lines 10 and 11 of the table are similar counts of references in retrospective bibliographies, made by Hopp. Here again, the first quartile represents four or five productive journals.

The twelfth line of the table illustrates yet another type of analysis. It is compiled from a record of loans from the London School of Hygiene Library, made by C. C. Barnard. The 6.2 per cent of titles covering a quarter of the loans represents seven journals, and the figures are thus more comparable to Bradford's than to the other studies. The last line of the table records the distribution of references consulted in information searches carried out in the petroleum industry

(Cole). The results from Barnard and Cole do not, of course, relate to a homogeneous subject field, but are the statistical summation of a number of incomplete literature searches. Nevertheless, they tend to follow the same "law of scattering" that Bradford deduced. The counts of references at the end of papers exaggerate the variation in productivity between titles in the first and last quartiles, but do illustrate the same characteristic of scientific literature.

The conclusion to be drawn from these studies is the great interpenetration and interdependence of every field of science and technology, with its corollary that no "special" library serving the scientist can ever be restricted to a "special" subject. This fact is, of course, well known to librarians, but its implications in the planning of bibliographical services of all kinds, and in their staffing, need to be borne in mind.

The forms of document used

Scientific and technical literature is issued in many forms, and there have been several studies of their relative importance. Moss, in his survey of the British electrical industry, asked users to rank forms in order of utility, and Herner, in a study of U.S. university scientists, did the same. Scott asked British electrical and electronic technologists the source of the most recent useful item read. A rough analysis of their results is as follows, giving percentage importance. The patterns of

	Herner	Moss	Scott
Reports, bulletins	15	—	—
Textbooks, monographs	19	14	4
Journals	11	24	76
Handbooks, tables	22	17	—
Reviews, summaries	7	9	—
Trade literature	11	14	4
Theses	4	—	—
Patents	1	—	—
Advertisements	—	16	11
Newspapers	—	6	4
Dictionaries	6	—	—
Standards	4	—	—

reply to Herner and Moss, despite the different backgrounds of the respondents, were reasonably similar, although only the university scientists mentioned reports and dictionaries, and only the technologists mentioned advertisements and newspapers. Scott's result was very different—when it came to remembering particular recent items, journals were of prime importance.

This is also seen in some studies of actual use. Shaw found that of 5,000 items read by U.S. scientists, 14 per cent were reports and bulletins, 7 per cent textbooks and monographs, 68 per cent journal articles and 1 per cent handbooks.

In a survey of literature consulted by information searchers in the petroleum industry, Cole obtained the following figures: reports and bulletins 18 per cent, textbooks, handbooks and pamphlets 35 per cent, journals 58 per cent, trade catalogues 5 per cent. However, in a study of the reading of aeronautics scientists and engineers, Thorne found the pattern: reports 44 per cent, journals 31 per cent, books 13 per cent. The relative importance of different forms of literature varies according to the type of reader.

We can conclude further (a) that many types of publication are consulted and valued by scientists, and (b) that subjective evaluations of their usefulness are not simply based on frequency of use—a rarely consulted handbook may be subjectively (and perhaps objectively) of equal value to a frequently consulted set of journals. As already noted, the engineers studied by Hertz and Rubenstein rated desk reference books more important than the library.

Age and language

One aspect of scientific reading on which a great deal of data has been collected is its distribution according to the age of the item read. Many analyses of citations in journal articles and bibliographies have been made, and a fairly constant pattern is found (Stevens, Brown, Hopp).

Age of reference	0-10	11-20	21-30	over 30 years
Percentage use	55	25	10	10

In bibliographies, the corresponding percentages are 40, 25, 20 and 15, i.e., older literature figures more prominently when making a complete bibliography than in current research. The pattern, of course, does vary from one subject to another. For citations in journals to books Brown found the following:

Age in years	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	over 50
Mathematics	27	28	21	9	5	10
Physics	64	23	8	2	2	1
Chemistry	64	24	6	2	1	3
Geology	56	19	13	4	3	5
Physiology	62	18	11	2	3	4
Botany	38	20	12	4	4	22
Zoology	26	18	12	7	7	30
Entomology	26	23	16	6	8	21

Shaw's records of day-by-day reading and Cole's study of the items consulted by information searchers showed much greater emphasis on current literature:

Age in years	<1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	>10
Shaw, per cent	83	3	2	2	2	3	5
Cole, per cent	31	22	13	13	8	9	5

Wilson made an analysis of reports being read at an aerodynamics institution on a given day, with the following results: 38.8 per cent were dated the current year, 45 per cent from 1 to 5 years old, 13.3 per cent from 6 to 10, and only 2.7 per cent over 10 years old. Hogg and Smith asked their atomic energy scientists to evaluate the usefulness of periodicals by age, on the scale 6=essential, 5=very useful, 4=useful, 3=fairly useful, 2=little use, 1=no use. They obtained the following scores:

Age in years	1	1-5	5-10	10
Research journals	4.6	4.4	3.5	2.9
Technical journals	4.7	4.2	3.1	2.5

Journals more than five years old were no more than "fairly useful".

Statistics of this kind have obvious applications in planning library provision. Rankings of journals in order of frequency of use, obtained by the same analyses, have similar value, although the ranking of foreign-language journals may not be a true measure of their potential worth. Louttit has analysed the citations in some English, German and French chemistry and physics journals to references in those three languages, with the following results:

Language of publication	Percentage of citations to		
	English	German	French
CHEMISTRY JOURNALS			
English	79	12	5
German	23	64	6
French	37	28	29
Total	46	35	13
World List	43	11	15
PHYSICS JOURNALS			
English	86	6	2
German	35	58	1
French	50	15	31
Total	57	26	11
World List	40	15	17

In chemistry, for example, 79 per cent of the citations in English journals are to English references, while only 23 per cent of citations in German journals are to English references. Each language group is biased towards the citation of references in its own language. The rows labelled "Total" and "World List" are different estimates of the actual relative amounts of literature in the three languages: "Total" is a summation of Louttit's figures, and "World List" is based on a sample analysis of that catalogue by Lloyd.

The sources of references

Preceding sections have summarized some characteristics of the literature read by scientists. How do they find this literature? What reference

sources do they use? Both diary studies and questionnaire surveys have posed these questions. There is a good deal of variation in the answers, but they can be roughly averaged as follows:

Current scanning (of circulated material, etc.), 27 per cent
Citations in other literature, 19 per cent
Oral recommendation from colleague, 21 per cent
Previous knowledge (e.g., in own index), 8 per cent
Index, abstract, bibliography, catalogue, 25 per cent

These rough figures emphasize that on average only a quarter (and in no survey much more than a third) of references are obtained by systematic searching of the recognized secondary sources—indexes, abstracts, bibliographies, catalogues. There is an equal dependence on oral recommendation (again talking rather than reading), and on the scanning of current literature, while another fifth is picked up from citations found in the course of previous reading.

Glass and Norwood, in a survey which showed even heavier dependence than the average on current scanning and oral recommendation, asked fifty U.S. scientists how they had learnt of the existence of some important items of information they had used in their own work. The answers were as follows:

	Percentage
Casual conversation	22.6
From a journal regularly scanned	22.0
From a journal subscribed to	8.4
From a cross citation in another paper	6.9
Can't remember—general background—common knowledge	6.4
From a reprint received from the author	5.8
Through an abstracting service	5.2
From a co-worker in the same laboratory or department	4.3
From a reference work or textbook	4.3
From a review article (old work)	4.0
Through a formal report at a meeting	2.6
By chance	2.6
From a bibliography or material supplied in a course	1.7
Through an indexing service	1.2
In a formal discussion group	1.2
From a book list	0.9

Menzel asked U.S. university scientists to give instances of learning information without searching the literature for it, and analysed 30 answers as follows:

- Found in the literature while searching for something else, 4.
- Contributed by a colleague on informing him of my work, 13.
- Spontaneously mentioned by a colleague, 4.
- Told by an interested colleague, 9.

He also collected examples of scientists seeking

information through personal contact rather than through the literature. In 16 out of 28 cases, the information sought was unlikely to have been published or indexed: practical details on materials, apparatus, techniques, etc.

All these results point to the same thing: the quantitative contribution to the scientists' reading (and learning) of formal bibliographical tools is equalled by the contributions of current scanning, cited references, and of oral recommendation.

The pattern of communication

The preceding summary of the results of surveys of literature use is far from complete. I have only picked out the most general results, and have also presented averages where there is in fact quite a range of variation. Nevertheless, it does set out some characteristic features of the situation. The literature of science and technology runs to tens of millions of documents—perhaps hundreds of millions, if a true count could be made. The stock is being added to at an increasing rate. The time available to any working scientist for searching and reading literature is restricted. It might be somewhat increased if the time at present spent in discussion were reduced, but we do not know whether this would be desirable: oral communication also provides a considerable proportion of the information received by the scientist. Anyway the absolute limit of available time would soon be reached.

The surveys of reference questions by Herner and by Cole show how varied are the information

needs, and other studies show that inevitably this varied information is scattered through many fields of knowledge, through many forms of publication, and through many items of any particular form. It is therefore not satisfactory for a scientist to restrict his reading to an area limited by either subject or form. He has to have some means of access to a very wide range of literature. On the other hand, there are patterns of scatter: the majority of literature use is, of course, directly in the main field of interest of the user, particular groups of users will concentrate on particular forms of literature, and according to "Bradford's law" half the references needed by a user will be found in a dozen or so of the most productive journals. There is also a heavy concentration on recent literature (varying with the subject field, and type of user), and on publications in the reader's own language.

These conclusions are not novel for librarians. The surveys only serve to delineate more sharply and roughly quantify a situation which is only too familiar. Nevertheless, these studies have been useful as a step towards understanding the whole complex process of the transmission of scientific and technical information. Having established the present pattern, the next step is to go forward to further research on ways of improving it. One lesson to be learnt from the surveys is the difficulty of framing questions whose answers will point to useful action. Too many of the surveys have provided only what may be called "curious information", without any obvious corollary. Information leading to action is what we now need.

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[Since this article was written, 18 months ago, other surveys of science literature use have been reported. In particular I would draw attention to the "Review of studies in the flow of information among scientists" in two volumes, prepared by the Bureau of Applied Social Research, British Columbia University, January 1960.—B.C.V.]

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AN APPROACH TO BOOK SELECTION IN THE SCIENCES FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

William L. Emerson

Head of the Science-Industry Department, Long Beach Public Library, California

THOMAS MANN once said that order and simplification are the first steps toward the mastery of a subject—the actual enemy is the unknown. The problems connected with the evaluation and selection of books do seem at least disorderly if not downright chaotic when one realizes that since 1921 there have been—even allowing for duplication—over four hundred articles appearing in *Library literature* under the headings, “Book selection” and “Public libraries—book selection”. Let me hastily confess that I did not read these articles. Counting them alone convinced me that reading them was no way to attempt to bring order and simplification into the problems connected with the evaluation and selection of books in sciences.

If we do not plunge into this morass of material, how then might we begin to bring some semblance of order and simplification into this problem? I should like to begin by recommending for the book selector in any field, Carter and Bonk's *Building library collections*, published by the Scarecrow Press in 1959. The opening chapter on “Principles of book selection” is of interest, not only because it lists most of the various principles that have come into professional discussion about book selection but also because it shows what conceivably might develop if a selector tried to follow any of these principles. If one follows the demand, or “give 'em what they want” theory, one will obviously end up with a quite different collection than if one follows the value or “give 'em what they should want” theory. The core of the problem is one of finding as precisely as possible the fulcrum between these two extremes. Once found, there remains the continuing problem of keeping the collection somehow balanced between these two points. To paraphrase a famous statement, “Eternal vigilance is the price of a well-balanced book collection”.

There is, however, a pre-requisite to eternal vigilance. This pre-requisite is a knowledge of what we are being vigilant for or vigilant against.

Book selectors must, as Carter and Bonk state:

“... make judgments and choices from a clearly realized point of view and not from some nebulous, imprecise feelings which they have never translated into real understanding.

“The best way of assuring that such clear realizations will be achieved is to have a written statement of book selection policy. This statement should include an outline of the general purposes that the library is attempting to serve as well as a statement of the specific aims which arise out of the particular community's needs.”¹

There is only one disagreement I have with this statement. I do not think that having a written book selection policy statement is the “best” way; I think it is the *only* way. Unless some programme for the basis of selection has been worked out, there will be no yardstick by which one can evaluate. Unless a book selector can operate from the basis of a statement, each of his selections might almost as well be based on coin flipping.

In the sciences as in any field, the drawing up of a comprehensive book selection policy statement is the first step in introducing some order and simplification into book selection. May I quote the three short paragraphs from the Long Beach Public Library book selection policy statement that pertain to science? After discussing the requirement of having all sides to social and political questions in accordance with the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights*, the book selection policy statement goes on to say:

“However, in the scientific and technical fields controversial and doubtful material should be avoided. Science generally is a field in which a distinction should be made between science and pseudo-science. The librarian, to avoid misusing funds and misleading patrons of the library, should attempt to draw this distinction, both in acquisition of materials and in classifying. When help to distinguish is needed, the librarian should rely on reliable professional journals, scientific reviews and specialists in the community.

“It is the library's policy to buy very selectively in medicine, surgery, psychiatry, and related fields. Books on

diagnosis and treatment are not purchased for the general public for obvious reasons.

"Special care is necessary in the purchase of health and medical books in which subject matter or treatment is not recognized by reputable scientific authority. Careful examination of such books may rule out those which are unsound scientifically or potentially harmful. In doubtful cases, it is necessary to wait for authoritative reviews in reliable professional journals as a basis for selection."³

It will not always be easy to follow such a policy. The flying saucer controversy is a case in point. The adherents, dare I say fanatics, maintain that science has not yet caught up with this phenomenon. Thus confronted, can the science librarian do anything but reply: "This may be true but our book selection policy statement for the sciences gives us an objective formula for selection. At such time as flying saucer phenomena become scientifically acceptable, we will be most happy to treat it as such." The adherents will be unsatisfied, but the librarian will have a firm ground for defence.

In some respects the selection of books in the fields of science and technology, aside from the embattled fields of some of the social sciences, can be relatively painless although it may be time consuming. Anthony Standen to the contrary, science is *not* a sacred cow. Science, by its very nature, as Louis N. Ridenour states:

"... enjoys the property of having an agreed body of discipline and an agreed storehouse of objective information, which is shared by scientists the world around."⁴

He stated this in an article which should be required reading for every librarian selecting books in the sciences. It appeared as the chapter, "Science and pseudo-science", in the book, *Freedom of book selection*, published by the American Library Association in 1954.

Science, then, represents a demonstrable and respectable body of knowledge. Accepting this basis, should not almost the entire weight of the book collection in the sciences consist of books which would have the approval of the scientific community? If this principle is accepted, then the question of how to evaluate books in the sciences could be reduced to the answering of a simple question, "Is the book scientifically acceptable?" Answering such a question requires relying on such journals as, *Scientific American*, *Science*, *Nature*, *Physics Today*, etc., and the publications of the various scientific professional associations. It requires placing less reliance on *Publisher's Weekly*, *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, and the more commonly-used book selection tools. Of these more familiar tools, I believe *Library Journal* to be the most reliable: although outside of this generalized belief I have but one bit of factual evidence

to support such a statement. It is to be recognized, of course, that placing more dependence on scientific journals will sacrifice immediacy to reliability.

The public librarian can also rely on the publications of such agencies as the American Heart Association, the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation, the American Cancer Society, and other such non-profit, public service agencies which try to disseminate the latest scientifically acceptable information. That the information they give may later be modified or even radically changed is not the point. At any given moment in time they are trying to disseminate the current information that reliably represents the state of knowledge.

Answering the question of scientific acceptability also requires placing less reliance on the *Standard catalog for public libraries* than on such a—if I may use the term in this context—biblical-like aid as the *AAAS Science book list* published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1959. Although primarily aimed for the reading of young people, most of the books on the list are not beyond the comprehension of unscientifically oriented adults. As the introduction states:

"... not only have all of the books included in this list been suggested by professionals and specialists in their fields, but they have been read and evaluated by senior high school students and college undergraduates majoring and already well grounded in the various fields of science and mathematics."⁴

By relying on such tools, the book selector can have a good deal of assurance that the books chosen reflect a high degree of scientific reliability.

However, there remains another major aspect of the problem. From these remarks so far it has been obvious that the underlying assumption has been that the value theory of book selection should probably be basic in choosing titles in the sciences. While it seems apparent to me that primary consideration should be given to the value theory, some attention must be paid to the demand theory. A public library collection, like any other collection, should bear some resemblance to the needs of its users.

A first step in the gathering of objective information on this point might be to find out what books, what fields of science, the readers are using. Lord Kelvin was fond of repeating that: "Until you can measure something you can know nothing about it." Two years ago in an effort to gather some information on book use in the Science Industry Department of the Main Long Beach Public Library, every book from the

department that appeared on the microfilm circulation record for a two-week period was transcribed to a Keysort punched card which was then coded to bring out certain data. I shall not bore you with a detailed analysis of the findings. Suffice it to say that in this department, which contains the 300's, the 500's and the 600's in the Dewey Classification, the 300's accounted for about 32 per cent of the department circulation, the 500's for about 19 per cent, and the 600's for about 49 per cent. It was interesting to us to note that the 610's and 620's alone accounted for almost 27 per cent of the department circulation.

After completing this study we felt less in sympathy for Lord Kelvin's statement than we did for the reply once made to it that went: "Yes, but you can measure something and still not know very much about it." If we did know very little, we had at least learned which areas were in greatest use and where, numerically at least, the collection needed greatest strengthening.

In this analysis of circulation, books in the 610's accounted for over 10 per cent of the department's circulation. Books on health and nutrition made up no small part of this figure. Sometime after our study was completed, a very useful list appeared in the *Library Journal* for 15th February, 1960, entitled, "Nutrition for lay readers", written by Helen S. Mitchell, Dean of the School of Home Economics at the University of Massachusetts. This annotated list contained 27 acceptable titles and 14 unacceptable titles. Acceptable and unacceptable, that is, as books for the lay public judged by the scientifically-trained people working in the fields of nutrition and public health. The Science-Industry department collection contained a healthy number in each category—or should I say an unhealthy number? While we have not yet withdrawn any titles not recommended, we did purchase all the recommended titles which we did not have and duplicated those recommended titles which were already represented. We are not replacing any of the non-recommended titles as they are worn out or are lost. We hope that in the not too distant future perhaps, Gaylord Hauser, Adele Davis, and D. C. Jarvis will follow the fading act usually attributed to old soldiers.

This general area brings us to an important consideration. Many of the public library patrons actually turn to books in the areas of science for non-scientific reasons. They do not seek objective analysis of factual data. They seek solace, comfort, or something that will bolster their own preconceived ideas of life or of some aspect of life.

Martin Gardner's *Fads and fallacies in the name of science* is an enlightening discussion of many of the unusual ideas that have been offered to, and accepted by, people under the guise of science.

In 1955 in New York there appeared a delightful off-Broadway musical called "The Shoe String Revue". One of its many high points was a production of the Medea legend as it might ostensibly be retold by Walt Disney. In the closing moments of this number, Jason, who has just seen his fiancée and future father-in-law burned to a crisp is not downcast. As he says to Medea: "A bright, sunny, golden future can still be ours if only we wish hard enough. Education, planning, hard work, all these things have their place but for results give me a good, solid wish every time." Perhaps this wishful Jason bears some similarity of character to some of those who have accepted as scientifically valid some of the rosy nostrums that have been offered in the name of science. It is not too difficult to imagine him ingesting gallons of cod liver oil one year and swilling even greater amounts of honey and vinegar the next year, all the while serenely contemplating the cosmic forces of Mu.

No librarian needs to be told that some patrons want and seem to need this strong belief in pseudo-science. As Jean Rostand has said in his book, *Error and deception in science*:

"Pseudo-sciences are important factors in our social life. If we were to take stock of the followers of radiesthesia, of astrology, of metaphysics, etc., we should discover that they far outnumber the more earth-bound scientists. Nor do these mystifiers need to expend a great deal of their energy on propaganda—their armies require little encouragement."⁵

The numbers of these armies who patronize the public library are, after all, also supporters of the public library and some attempt should be made to meet their needs. If some of the titles of books which satisfy their needs are, in the medicine and health classification, should not some effort be made to see that these books are not potentially medically harmful? Our own local Public Health Department has always been most willing to help us if the reviewing media leave room for doubt. Also, our patrons have seemed to appreciate booklists which the Science-Industry Department issues occasionally which call attention to recommended titles of books about health and disease and which also give the reason for not purchasing certain titles in these fields.

If other titles in the science classification actually represent the non-scientific wishful thinking that some patrons find helpful, does not the library have an obligation to the scientific community, to science itself, to see that some

degree of differentiation separates science from pseudo-science? Might not, and should not, some arbitrary subclassification be assigned to the 500's and 600's for pseudo-science? Or, as an alternative, might not these titles join others in that peculiar fictive cosmos of the 100's which has been somewhat quaintly called, "Occult Sciences"? Surely this is one of the most flagrant contradictions in terms that our profession has perpetrated!

If I have digressed somewhat from the basic problem of evaluation and selection, it is because the problem does not necessarily end there. If it is necessary to acquire and classify some of these so-called non-fiction titles, surely we should not honour them by calling them science. As Ridenour has stated in the article already quoted:

"In sum, then, science generally, is a field in which a distinction—an objective distinction—can be drawn between responsible and irresponsible work, between the trained worker and the quack, and between science and pseudo-science. The librarian, to avoid misusing funds for acquisitions and misleading clients of the library, should attempt to draw this distinction, both in acquisition and in classifying, and where advice is needed to permit this to be done, the librarian's scientific colleagues, I am sure, will be ready with that advice."⁶

In conclusion, if we recognize the validity of science as an organized body of knowledge; if we prepare our book selection policy statement for the sciences to reflect this recognition; if we seek scientifically reputable guides; if, with the dross we find must be present we take care to see that it can be recognized as dross; if, in short, we follow some of the aims and methods of science itself, we will have introduced some objective procedure, some fundamental order into the process needed for the solution of the problems of evaluation, selection, and classification of books in the sciences. As Thomas Mann once said: "Order and simplification are the first steps toward the mastery of a subject—the actual enemy is the unknown."

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THE PROBLEM OF THE DECLINE IN USE OF NEW BRANCH LIBRARIES, AND SOME SUGGESTED REMEDIES

J. Davies, A.L.A.

Swindon Public Libraries

A NUMBER of new branch libraries have been built within the last decade and reports on these have naturally been found in some quantity in the professional press. This article deals with a phenomenon of prime importance, which occurs frequently, and yet which appears to have been very little dealt with: the almost universally steep decline in the use of these branches after the enthusiasm of the initial 12 months has worn off, and some suggested remedies.

The branch library at Penhill, Swindon, has followed the above mentioned pattern during the first three years of its existence. Opening in 1957, by July, 1959, the "issue" had reached its nadir, and the use of the reference stock and advisory services were similarly poor, but within the last 12 months a decided improvement has been made. Whilst admitting that this may not continue and that it may be partly due to imponderables, we nevertheless think that our general policy has helped to restore the use of the branch.

The decline in the use of the branch might well be explained by an inadequate book supply, and its increased use by a correction of this fault. This is, in fact, not the case: during the first 18 months of its existence books were added in large quantities but since this time an addition rate of 8 per cent to 10 per cent of the total additions of Swindon Public Libraries has been maintained, and about 80 per cent of all Penhill's additions are new publications. It is obvious, therefore, that the varying usage of the branch bears little relationship to the book supply which has remained constant throughout all these fluctuations. Apart from the additions to stock mentioned above, there is a constant interchange of books between central and the branches. Recent exchanges include the better types of novel and books on gardening, fishing, Judo, modern dancing, biography, criminology—lighter novels and junior books are subject to much greater

wear and tear and are seldom bound and rarely exchanged. "Travelling displays" also help to maintain fluidity of stock.

In the main, the people of Penhill require reading of a popular character; they read for recreation and not to any great extent for self-improvement. An attempt has been made to line up the organizational structure of the branch with this concept. However, the importance of the minority of readers has been recognized and a basic stock of standard works is maintained and added to on demand. We have also attempted to extend the range of services offered to the serious reader. Nevertheless, some of the more specialized works have been returned to central, where they will reach a wider public and a greater percentage of popular books have been obtained in their place. There has been no lowering of standards in regard to the type of popular and general books selected.

Despite the realization that more popular works were required, we have never bought works of no intrinsic merit: those books, particularly paper-backs, whose sole attribute is a lurid cover have been rigidly excluded; nevertheless, this is not our criterion of book selection and many works of intrinsic merit, albeit with lurid covers and violent or objectionable passages, find a place on our shelves.

To aid both types of reader, the adult fiction stock was divided into its major subject divisions; these were conceived as: Popular—Mystery, Westerns and Romances, all forming separate sequences; and the remainder, placed in one alphabetical sequence, were taken to be serious works. This last division admittedly contains "Science-Fiction" works, and light "Historical Romances", together with the true classics and serious works, but it is impractical to make further subject divisions because of the relatively small stock. Each of the minor elements in the

section, however, are separated periodically in "displays", thus giving maximum availability to interested readers. As the majority of Penhill readers read from one or more of the three "popular" groups, by concentrating the stock within these groups, we offer this majority maximum availability. Mobility of stock has been maintained by frequent exchanges, with all branches and central, of both fiction and non-fiction stock.

At first the junior stock contained only two bays of books for 5-year olds and under. The growing number of infants on the estate necessitated a greater allocation of books in this section and in consequence the junior "issue" has greatly increased.

The reference stock has been strengthened and is more widely used than it was previously.

The general decline in the number of books borrowed continued until the beginning of the last quarter, but since this time the daily average issue has increased: in May by 18 per day on the corresponding month in 1959, in June by 36 per day and in July by 77 per day.* Another excellent sign has been the increased number of tickets issued during this period: in July, 1960, well over 500 tickets were issued as opposed to fewer than 250 in July, 1959. This bald statement may suggest that the transfer from decrease to increase in "issues" came quite unexpectedly, but in fact the trend for the last quarter was foreshadowed by a steady decline in the decrease, apparent for at least 6 months. A final point on the "issue": much of the use of the library cannot be measured by the issue, and mention should be made of the great number of older schoolchildren who use the library for study purposes during the winter months.

As mentioned above, the number of readers using the library in the last 12 months has increased. Attempts have been made to popularize the service by issuing leaflets to try and attract new members to the library, and circulars have been issued with new membership forms to those readers whose membership has recently lapsed. The former were not successful but the latter were, showing a consistent 10 to 20 per cent return.

Whereas the recent issue and readership increases may be, in the main, due to imponder-

* Since this date the issue figures have been: August, increase of 44 per day on 1959; September, increase of 1 per day; October, increase of 31 per day; November, increase of 7 per day; December, increase of 33 per day; January, increase on January 1960 of 43 per day; February, increase of 35 per day; March, increase of 27 per day; April, increase of 67 per day; May not known.

ables, the revised branch policy must be responsible for some part of this increase.

Until recently there were insufficient displays in operation, but the design and operation of a new 3-sided display stand has been accomplished within the last quarter, and it is now more popular than the original displays, which are, however, still maintained. An exchange of over 30 display titles with the central library has revived the worth of the two early displays. Another new feature has been the "travelling display". These are proving popular with Penhill's serious readers and are a good feature in that they give the out-of-town resident a better opportunity than formerly of indulging in serious literary pursuits. Obviously the serious reader can never obtain a service equal to that offered at a central library, but the aim is to narrow the gap as much as possible.

With regard to staff: a new staff manual has been completed with which it is hoped to rationalize staff duties and eliminate unnecessary features, thus releasing assistants for work of a more professional nature.

There is a dichotomy in all library work. The most obvious half has been dealt with; nevertheless the remainder, though perhaps less well defined, is of equal importance. It is the attempt to integrate the library with the community. The following activities show the attempts made to do so at Penhill.

The story reading service, which has been well publicized in the local press, has the aim of attracting children to the library and interesting them in books. With the younger children we have been particularly successful of late (the average group is now about 15) and this is probably because we read to them what they wish to hear and not what they "should" hear. It is particularly noticeable that the children become more friendly with the story-reader and less averse to approaching him later on other matters; they bring their friends and thus indirectly help to swell membership figures; and in short help to publicize the library and make it more of a living force.

We have established contact with the local organizations in charge of Scouts, Cubs, Guides, and Brownies, and after offering our services the librarian was chosen as an examiner for "Readers' Badges". It is hoped to link up this activity with story reading.

From the beginning many valuable contacts were established for lectures, approaches being made to each of the religious denominations on the estate. The Church of England and the Free

Churches were very co-operative and offered lecture dates which were accepted. Since then the librarian has been placed on the regular list of lectures of both bodies and further engagements in the coming seasons are expected. Although as favourable a relationship has not yet been established with the schools, much good work has also been done here. Lectures are, of course, given to school-leavers and recently notices advertizing story reading have been displayed at the junior school, and children are sometimes set homework problems with the library's resources in mind. It is hoped, however, to do much more in this field of work in the future.

The Music Society was established soon after the branch opened, the library providing a room, a record-player and a fair selection of classical records. Despite the heroic efforts of the chairman and the extensive circularization of all likely societies and individuals, the attempt was a failure, although we persevered for many weeks. The offer to supply by post bibliographical

information on all recent acquisitions within a special subject field was made to Penhill residents and a number have taken up the offer.

Our plans for the future are to publicize and popularize the library as much as possible, and to this end we are prepared to modify our policy in any required direction in the best interests of our readers. Details of our tentative plans include the establishment of a "Junior Film Society", a children's magazine, extension of lectures to other groups, such as the W.E.A., and greater co-operation with the schools.

To summarize: our main purpose has been to increase the use of the library without lowering our standards. To do this we have appreciated that recreational reading is the main interest of the majority, whilst attempts have been made to improve services to all the minority groups. We have tried, by all the means open to us, to bring the branch into community life as much as possible. To date the results have been good.

Supply of Russian Books

The Secretary has recently discussed with the Soviet Trade Delegation in London and with a director of Collet's Holdings Ltd. difficulties in obtaining copies of Russian books which are not ordered in advance of publication. It appears that the real cause of the difficulties lies in Russia, in that the publishers do not generally print enough copies to enable them to meet orders coming from countries overseas. Collet's Holdings Ltd. have for some time been making great efforts to persuade the publishers concerned to increase their printings, and the Library Association have asked the Soviet Trade Delegation to do all in its power to make sure that orders from the United Kingdom are met.

Branch and Section Elections

NORTH MIDLAND BRANCH

Members of the North Midland Branch of the Library Association are reminded that the closing date for nominations for the election of Councillors to the N.M.B.L.A. Council for 1962 is noon, Monday, 18th September, 1961.

Nominations must be proposed and seconded by two members of good standing in the Association, and countersigned by the candidate indicating willingness to serve, if elected.

YOUTH LIBRARIES SECTION

Nominations are invited for Honorary Officers and five committee members. Nominations should be submitted in writing, signed by two members of the Section and countersigned by the nominee, and must reach the Honorary Secretary, Mr. M. S. Crouch, Kent County Library, Springfield, Maidstone, Kent, before 1st October, 1961.

The following officers have been nominated by the committee: *Chairman*: Miss F. P. Parrott; *Hon. Secretary*: Mr. M. S. Crouch; *Hon. Treasurer*: Mr. D. B. Lomas; *Hon. Membership Secretary*: Miss N. A. Dale; *Ex-officio member*: Miss J. Butler (retiring Chairman).

REFERENCE, SPECIAL AND INFORMATION SECTION

Nominations are invited for the Officers and Members of the Section and Group Committees. Nominations must be submitted in writing, signed by two members and counter-signed by the candidate, and must reach the Section or Group Secretary *not later than 1st October*. The Committee will be constituted as set out in the revised Section and Group Rules. Each member of the Section is entitled to nominate and be nominated for the Section Committee, and also for one Group in those areas where a Group has been formed (see below).

No other notices will be issued by Groups.

ADDRESSES OF HON. SECRETARIES: *Section Committee*: R. C. Wright, Main Library, Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, Hants; *North Midlands Group*: D. W. Bromley, Commercial and Technical Library, Public Library, Sherwood Street, Nottingham; *North Western Group*: A. C. Bubb, Royal Technical College, Salford; *Northern Group*: J. B. Nattriss, Central Library, Bridge Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1; *South Eastern Group*: Miss A. M. C. Thompson, Royal College of Nursing, 1A Henrietta Place, London, W.1; *West Midlands Group*: Miss B. M. Elsmore, West Midlands Regional Library Bureau, Reference Library, Ratcliff Place, Birmingham, 1; *Western Group*: H. Overton, Technical Library, W. D. and H. O. Wills Ltd., Bedminster, Bristol, 3; *Yorkshire Group*: Mrs. A. Mason, Cataloguing Department, Central Library, Leeds, 1.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Winter Examinations, 1961

1. *Entry Forms.* Entry forms for the Winter examinations are now available upon application to the Secretary. Supplies of forms to meet the Winter requirements will be sent to librarians and staff representatives upon application: a stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed. Care should be taken to specify the number required for each examination, i.e., First Professional, Registration and Final.

2. *Certificates.* Candidates entering for the first time are reminded that they must comply with and should read the regulations set out in the *Students' handbook*, the *Syllabus of examinations*, and the *Year book*. They must be members of the Association and must have obtained a General Certificate of Education which conforms with the Council's requirements. Members claiming exemption from the First Professional Examination are required to submit evidence of graduation, or the certificate upon which they base their claim.

3. *Envelopes.* Two stamped addressed envelopes (post-card size) must be forwarded with the entry form for the despatch of the candidates' entry ticket and result card (Regulation 8). Failure to comply with this Regulation will delay both entry ticket and notification of result.

4. *Remittances.* All remittances should be in the form of cheques, money orders, or postal orders, made payable to the Library Association and crossed. Loose cash should not be sent. Members claiming exemption from the First Professional Examination are required to remit an exemption fee of £2 10s. in addition to the Registration Examination fee specified on the entry form. Envelopes containing entries should be endorsed "Examinations".

5. *Closing date.* The closing date for applications to sit the Winter examinations is 30th September, after which no applications can be considered.

6. *Group A (iii), Practical Classification and Cataloguing.* Before sending in applications to sit this part, candidates should make sure that they have access to the permitted works as set out in the syllabus, since no copies of these works will be provided in the examination room. The 13th, 14th and 16th editions of the Dewey Decimal Classification are permitted works: the 15th edition is not.

7. *Group D (vii) (a).* Candidates for this part must state on their forms whether they wish to take period (i) or period (ii). (See syllabus.)

8. Dates of Examinations.

Wednesday, 22nd November (all day). First Professional.
Tuesday, 5th December (all day). Final, Part 1.
Wednesday, 6th December (afternoon only). Registration A(i).
Thursday, 7th December (all day). Registration A(ii) and (iii).
Friday, 8th December (all day). Final, Part 2.
Monday, 11th December (all day). Registration B.
Tuesday, 12th December (all day). Final, Part 3.
Wednesday, 13th December (all day). Registration C and D and Specialist Certificate (e).
Thursday, 14th December (all day). Final, Part 4.

9. Centres for the examinations will be provided at:

†Aylesbury	Leicester
Birmingham	Lincoln
†Bolton	Liverpool
Bournemouth	London
†Brighton	†Luton
Bristol	Middlesbrough
†Burnley	Newcastle upon Tyne
Carlisle	†Northampton
†Chatham	Norwich
†Chelmsford	Nottingham
†Coventry	*Oldham
*Doncaster	†Oxford
Exeter	*Peterborough
*Farnborough	Plymouth
Gloucester	Portsmouth
Hereford	†Preston
*Huddersfield	Salford
Hull	Sheffield
Ipswich	*Shrewsbury
Isle of Wight	Southampton
Leeds	*Stoke-on-Trent

WALES	SCOTLAND	IRELAND
Aberystwyth	Aberdeen	Belfast
Cardiff	Edinburgh	Dublin
*Carmarthen	Glasgow	
Colwyn Bay	Perth	
Swansea		

* Indicates First Professional Examination only.

† Indicates First Professional and Registration Examinations only.

Candidates in the North West should note that no centre will be provided in Manchester. Some changes may have occurred in the addresses of examination centres, and candidates are advised to look carefully at their entry tickets to ensure attendance at the correct address.

10. A candidate to whom English is a foreign language should indicate this by a note on his application form, stating his mother-tongue and country of origin.

Annual Election of Council

Election of Councillors to serve from 1st January, 1962

The following elections will take place in 1961:

Three National Councillors from within a radius of 30 miles of Charing Cross.

Five National Councillors from beyond that radius.

(These eight Councillors will serve for three years, viz. 1962-64.)

If the proposals for amendments to the Byelaws are approved by the Annual General Meeting on 20th September, 1961, the following Councillors also will require to be elected:

Six Councillors elected by members employed in national, university, college and medical libraries.

Six Councillors elected by members employed in special libraries (i.e., libraries other than public, national, university, college and medical libraries).

The twelve Councillors for the time being elected to fill these places will, ultimately, hold office for three years, retiring annually in thirds. In order to start the rotation, the two Councillors in each category who receive the least number of votes in the first election will retire at the end of 1962, the two next above them in 1963, and the two at the top of the poll in 1964.

Nominations are now invited for all these places on the Council. The nominations for university, etc., library Councillors and special library Councillors will be disregarded in the event of the Annual General Meeting failing to approve the relevant amendments to the Byelaws.

Each candidate must be nominated by not less than two qualified voters.

In the case of candidates to represent national, university, college and medical libraries the persons nominating must themselves be employed in libraries in this class. In the case of candidates to represent special libraries the persons nominating must be employed in special libraries.

Nominations as defined above must be delivered to the Secretary of the Library Association at Chaucer House not later than *15th September*. The Secretary will obtain the candidate's consent to serve.

Voting papers will be posted to qualified voters on 15th November, 1961.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT HASTINGS ON WEDNESDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER, 1961

One notice of motion has been received for consideration under Item 5 of the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting which was published in the *RECORD* for July.

Mr. E. R. Luke will move:

"That the Annual Conference of the Library Association be retained as at present, and that the Annual General Meeting of Personal members of the Association continues to be held during the Annual Conference."

Only members whose subscriptions for 1961 have been paid are entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting on 20th September at 2.30 p.m.

Admission will be by ticket. Members and institutional representatives who register for the Conference will find tickets in their envelopes. Members and institutional representatives not registering for the Conference will be able to obtain tickets at the Registration Office (in the White Rock Pavilion) up to 12 noon on 20th September, or at the door of the White Rock Pavilion immediately before the Meeting.

Voting on the resolutions proposed by the Council for the amendment of the Byelaws will be conducted by ballot. Persons attending the Meeting are asked to collect ballot papers at the door at the time they surrender their admission tickets.

New Publications

The second, revised edition of *The Libraries of London*, edited by Raymond Irwin and Ronald Staveley, includes a much wider and more representative selection than the first edition which appeared in 1949. Many chapters have been extensively re-written and there are completely new chapters on the National Central Library, Learned Society Libraries, Technical and Professional Libraries, Industrial Libraries, Ecclesiastical and Theological Libraries and Music Libraries. Copies are now available from the Secretary, price 36s. (27s. to members), post 6d.

Fictitious beasts, a bibliography by Margaret W. Robinson, is a guide to the extensive literature on the subject. There exists an extraordinary variety of fictitious beasts and they have been dealt with in a variety of material—in legend and allegory, and in works on biology, history and medicine. An explanatory introduction and 14 line drawings taken from original sources complete a unique study. Copies are now available

from the Secretary, price 14s. (10s. 6d. to members), post 2d.

Library Science Abstracts

Owing to increased production costs we regret that it will be necessary to increase the price of *Library Science Abstracts* as from the first issue for 1962. The new price to L.A. members will be 35s. per annum; the full published price will be 50s.

The second *Cumulative Index* (covering Vols. 7-11, 1956-60) is now available, price 40s. (30s. to L.A. members), post 6d.

Register of Chartered Librarians

At the July, 1961, Council meeting, 2 Fellows and 54 Associates were elected to the Register as follows:

Fellows: Jordan, P. J.; Day, A. E., B.A.

Associates: Amphlett, H. (Mrs.); Badcock, U. A. (Miss); Bath, J. A. (Miss); Beech, G. A. (Miss); Blagden, J. F.; Boulstridge, B. C. (Miss); Brown, M. A. (Miss); Burch, B., B.A.; Burnip, F. M. (Miss); Byrne, P. L. (Mrs.); Callow, S. J. (Miss), M.A.; Clark, J. A. (Mrs.), B.A.; Cuff, S. M. (Miss); Davies, H. (Miss), B.A.; Davies, J. D.; Doig, R. M. (Miss); Duffield, A. M. (Miss); Dysart, J. G.; Easton, F. M. J.; Grove-White, B. E. (Miss); Hobbs, P. R. (Miss); Hodges, J. (Mrs.), B.A.; Hodkin, R. (Miss), M.A.; Hunter, B. R., B.A.; Jeffery, M. E. (Mrs.); Hart, V. M. (Miss); Hoyle, B. (Mrs.); Jones, S. E. W. (Miss); Mais, M. (Miss); Masters, T.; Miles, D. L., B.A.; Parker, P. J. (Mrs.); Randle, T. A. (Miss); Rawson, A. K.; Rickman, E. (Mrs.); Sawers, C. G. L. (Mrs.); Slater, K. J. (Miss); Sopher, A. J., M.A.; Sopher, R., M.A.; Stevenson, C. L., M.A.; Stoakley, R. J.; Swarbrick, M. J. (Miss), B.A.; Thorold, I. C. (Miss), B.A.; Thurston, J. P. (Miss), B.A.; Trevitt, P. A. (Miss); White, R. S. (Miss); Wiggins, M. E. (Miss); Wilkinson, C. R. (Miss); Wilkinson, C. E. (Miss); Wilkinson, F. (Mrs.); Wilkinson, J. (Miss); Willetts, G. (Miss); Williams, C. R. (Miss), B.A.; Wright, P. J. (Miss).

LANGUAGE OR SCIENCE QUALIFICATION

Members seeking registration as Associates under the existing Byelaws and Regulations will be permitted to offer a science qualification as an alternative to the language qualification (see examination Regulations 10 and 6).

The following list of sciences has been adopted as definitive:

Mathematical Group

- Mathematics
- Pure Mathematics
- Additional Mathematics
- *Applied Mathematics
- †Pure and Applied Mathematics
- *Mathematics and Theoretical Mechanics

Traditional Sciences Group

- General Science
- Additional General Science
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Physics with Chemistry
- Mechanics
- Geology

Biological Sciences Group

- Biology
- Botany
- Zoology
- *Human Biology and Hygiene
- †Elementary Physiology

Applied Sciences and Quasi Sciences

- †Physics with Electronics
- †Elementary Aeronautics
- Agricultural Science
- *Horticultural Science
- †Rural Biology

(* appears in two syllabuses only; † appears in one syllabus only.)

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXAMINERS

Applications are invited for the post of ASSISTANT EXAMINER in Registration, Groups A(i) & (ii), (Cataloguing). Applicants should give an account of their careers, including any teaching experience they have had, and name two referees. Examiners are required to give an undertaking that during the period of their service they will not give tuition, either orally or by correspondence, for the examination in which they mark.

Applications should be sent to the Secretary, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, by the 30th September, 1961.

LIBRARIUS LODGE

A meeting of Librarius Lodge, No. 6966, will be held on Tuesday, 19th September, 1961, at 6 p.m. in the Masonic Hall, St. Leonards, Sussex. Dinner will be served in the Refectory at a cost of one guinea excluding drinks. All members of the craft are invited to attend. Brethren dining must notify the Lodge Secretary, W. Bro. H. G. Gray, L.G.R., F.L.A., 5 Chelmsford Road, Leytonstone, London, E.11, before 9th September.

For Sale

1961 *Chambers Encyclopaedia*, New Centenary Edition, Elizabethan binding, cost £102 18s.; still in publisher's carton, unused. Offers, please, to Dr. J. Martin, 1 Vicarage Road, Bristol, 3.

Wanted

Copies *British National Bibliography* for 1955-1959. Replies to Librarian, Public Library, Hucknall, Notts.

For Disposal

The Librarian, University of Leeds, Dept. of Adult Education and Extra-Mural Studies, Leeds, has for disposal books and periodicals on economics, history, international relations, philosophy and psychology, education and literature. Applications are invited.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE LONG, LONG TRAIL

MR. D. E. GERARD, B.A., F.L.A., *Deputy City Librarian of Nottingham*, writes:

Odd, isn't it, how no home-grown word exists for what our rule-of-thumb sociologists call the *Zeitgeist*? Hence, when a significant book (and what a delight it is to see a significant book noticed in the RECORD) comes out, dealing with the spiritual and moral climate of the age, reviewers are either bold but embarrassed, as was our reviewer, Mr. Munford, or completely foxed (*vide* the TLS review). I had wondered how to draw the attention of librarian readers to Raymond Williams's *The long revolution* without sounding strident, so I would contratulate those concerned for getting it into focus through the review in the June issue. It cannot be emphasized too much that this is the kind of fodder that librarians ought to be digesting—this and *Culture and society* and the kind of occasional pieces produced by Richard Wollheim and Professor Titmuss. This is our *élan vital* in the book profession, and it is precisely what the new syllabus has elected to omit in future, presumably as being—for some unaccountable reason—deemed irrelevant. This is the source material which library students should be hitting each other with; they and their tutors should be studying it, investigating it, challenging it, and writing concordances to it as part of their terminal exercises and seminars. And in the diurnal experience of librarians in their libraries, it should be soaking in as part of the thought processes of the staff as they work. Instead, it is regarded with awe, or simply as an eccentric pastime.

Talking with contemporary victims of our library schools, reading the (comparatively rare) letters on education for librarianship, or perusing the new examination requirements, one is struck by the close and sustained scrutiny of trees advocated on all sides, and the corresponding insensitivity to the woods—a useful metaphor, this; it suggests obscurity, and that is exactly the state of the professional mind when it comes to aims and intentions. The quantity of literature on the design of broom closets, how to receive back a book, how to find a page—wickedly burlesqued in the same June issue of the RECORD by J. S. Rosser on a suggested new subject, Noise Abatement—is enormous. Is any attention ever going to be paid to the men who manipulate the books

in public libraries, and where they think they are in the scheme of things, or is it honestly a matter of no concern? We are this month at the latest point on the long revolutionary trail, and we ought to know what that means in terms of the culture we belong to. We are not the men of Edward Edwards' day, venerate him as we may; nor are we the men of World War I or even II. People, social classes and functionaries like us are caught in this cultural engagement always moving and always mutable, the realities of which do not seem to have penetrated into our professional life and thought. We are social servants without a hint of social realism about us—how can we function in such a mental state of confusion? The importance of Williams's new book is that it suggests certain habits of mind which anyone involved with adult education must learn to acquire. And the first point of interest about the book is that the author is *in* adult education. He is a Staff Tutor in the Delegacy for Extra Mural Studies at Oxford. For our purposes, as librarian readers of the book, this is the point of departure.

What was Williams up to in composing this work? Mr. Munford did not, I think, convey enough of the real gist in his review, although one must sympathize with the difficulties in trying to condense so rich a mass of material. As he said so pertinently, the terms of the offer made by the author are hard and involved. Agreed, too, that this book is of more importance to librarians because it deals with consumers and not producers, of literature. As a historian he would naturally be drawn to the historical portions, but I want to make the firm assertion that it is the final 50 pages which we need to plunder for texts to preach, one to another, ideas to disseminate and din into the heads of our malleable young and inflexible elders. Williams is concerned with social structures and attitudes. Time and time again he reminds us that things change, beginning his summing-up of Britain in the 1960s by saying "unless we achieve some realistic sense of community, our true standard of living will continue to be distorted". Now interest in fellowmen must be endemic to librarians; it can also be another word for gossip, or even an amusing intellectual game for the Common Room, but for us it is mandatory. If we learn that so necessary sense of community, our own professional dilemmas and contradictions *can* be resolved (e.g., What is censorship? How close are we to publishers? Is our miscellaneous

stock really necessary? Whom do we serve? What is the point of 25,000 new titles a year? Are our readers changing? I cannot remember hearing a debate on any of these radical questions recently. I doubt that they are ever mentioned in the Library Association Council.

It were impertinent of me to turn this letter into a second review of this towering piece of intellectual effort. I merely wish to endorse what the original reviewer says, and to go further, insisting that a reading and re-reading will assist us to ask some more relevant questions than we usually allow ourselves at library meetings or in our journal; I do not wish to sustain the argument longer than that. I will commit myself to this extent: that I believe the author of *The long revolution* has the answer, and that the answer for us in our professional capacity is there in his last chapter. The secret lies in understanding the contradiction inherent inside our way of life. If we understand that in general terms, we understand it as far as book production goes, and the art of reading, and it is here that it concerns us. Our borrowers (nobody sees a bigger cross section of society than the librarian does daily) betray their schizophrenia in matters of social and personal ethics every day; their schizophrenia leads to our schizophrenia. It is time we stopped playing with the means and defined ends. We can only start to do that with a diagnosis. This book offers us what I think is the right one. Examine it, and if anyone knows of a better one, let him give it out.

One piece of practical librarianship might be urged to finish: the Book List at the end should be checked against the holdings of every library worth the name (in fact every Staff Study Library). Any library having less than 75 per cent of the titles should be thoroughly depressed with itself.

"INFORMATION, DOCUMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION"

MR. BRIAN SELBY, F.L.A., *Berkshire County Library*, writes:

It was an interesting coincidence that Dr. Meredith's paper "Information, documentation and communication" should appear in the same (June) issue of the *RECORD* as that in which the list of additions to the L.A. Library included the National Physical Laboratory's 1958 symposium on the mechanization of thought processes. Dr. Meredith's "educational documentation" has, in a small way, been practised in certain Schools of

Librarianship for some time, but have librarians yet given sufficient thought to what Dr. Meredith calls "the revolution in data-processing, resting on Information Theory and Computer Technology"?

Clearly there is such a revolution, and rapid selectors, mechanical translation and perhaps even mechanical abstracting mark its progress. It is equally clear that most of the benefits of this revolution will be applicable only to large libraries of intensively used material, if only for the economic reason that expensive machines must work to pay for themselves. We have data *recording* in our smaller libraries—punched cards and copying machines—but no practical place has yet been suggested for, say, a mechanical translation system in any library smaller than the National Lending Library for Science and Technology. But, following Dr. Meredith, we may use these machines as "a model for certain specific brain-processes" and from our theorizing about those processes develop better ways of doing jobs which are still performed by humans; for instance, we may learn to "programme" our modest literature searches to improve their speed and usefulness to the reader.

In the background of Dr. Meredith's paper lurked a sinister implication that the revolution in data processing may turn the librarian into a button pusher and then "what becomes of his accumulated professional skill and scholarship?" We need have no fear; having adopted data recording systems and the recommendations of O and M teams to divide library staffs into professional and "mechanical" groups, it should not be difficult to adapt the data-processing systems to our needs. In any case, it seems likely that for some time to come the human mind will carry out the kind of data-processing needed in all but the largest libraries more efficiently than a machine, since the mind programmes its work much quicker than a machine can be prepared to do the same job. The mind uses experience to reject whole blocks of material which the machine must scan, even if it does so symbolically.

To sum up, the position seems to be that the mind is a more elegant piece of apparatus than the machine which, however *fast* it works, is ponderous in its methods and, for as long as this is so, there will continue to be a place in libraries for the professional skill and scholarship of librarians.

It is a comforting thought that when the data-processing systems take over from librarians, we shall at last have time to spare from our more tedious tasks to do some reading.

EARLY PRINTED CATALOGUES

MR. N. E. DAIN, F.L.A., *Head of the Leeds School of Librarianship*, writes:

Several years ago you published a letter of mine asking if librarians would be kind enough to present copies of their libraries' early printed catalogues. I received a number of such catalogues dating from the nineteenth century or the early part of the twentieth century from the following places: Bootle, Bradford, Dumfries, Hereford, Hull, Lewisham, Norwich, Newcastle and Walthamstow. I have, of course, already written to thank the librarians for these most welcome gifts. They form an interesting collection illustrative of the reading matter and the stock of the public libraries of three to four generations ago. I should be grateful if any other librarians of public libraries would be so kind as to send similar catalogues. I am interested also in the catalogues of mechanics' institutes and of proprietary libraries, a number of which I have already purchased from booksellers. I find, incidentally, that I am not the only person who is collecting the historical catalogues of libraries, as quite important learned libraries are in some cases doing the same thing.

I should also be grateful if librarians could present to me any broadsheet manifesto or other documents which may have been issued at the time of proposals to found their libraries. As such items are often now unique and are therefore retained as treasures, I should be very content to have photostat copies of any such documents, for which I shall be happy to pay. In addition I am interested in historical documents relating to attempts to found libraries before the nineteenth century.

"A LIBRARY IN THE TROPICS"

MISS M. EASTGATE, M.A., A.L.A., *Manager, C.M.S. (Nigeria) Bookshop, Enugu, Nigeria*, writes:

I read with interest a paragraph in Mr. Gunton's article "A library in the tropics". This refers to the buying of books. Mr. Gunton is here listing problems common to most libraries in the tropics and not specifically Northern Nigeria. I would like to draw attention to the sentence beginning "Not for the tropical librarian the well-stocked shop . . ." I would point out that until recently the Northern Area Office of C.M.S. (Nigeria) Bookshops at Zaria was under the charge of a qualified librarian. Admittedly there can be no comparison between bookshops in the

U.K. and in Nigeria but I feel that perhaps there can be more co-operation between bookshop managers and librarians in this country. For myself, as a qualified librarian with experience in public libraries, I might hope to stock in the C.M.S. Bookshop, Enugu, as many as possible of the adult books required by the Eastern Nigeria Library Board and would be prepared to let out such books on approval. However, the Library Boards seem to favour the policy of buying direct from bookshops in the U.K., and in this case there is no point in trying to stock titles which will probably be of interest merely to the library when these have already been ordered elsewhere.

MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANSHIP

MR. P. M. WHITEMAN, F.L.A., *Head of Department, Manchester College of Science and Technology*, writes:

The Manchester School was established in the Manchester College of Science and Technology in 1946. By a long standing agreement between the College and the Manchester Education Committee, the School is to be transferred to the Manchester College of Commerce, and it has recently been decided that the transfer will take place on 1st September, 1961.

The School receives from librarians, at home and overseas, countless library publications: annual reports, booklists, bulletins, etc. There are so many that acknowledgement is impossible, but the kindness of the librarians concerned is nevertheless greatly appreciated.

May I appeal to all those librarians who send their publications to the School, to address them, from 1st September, to me at the School of Librarianship, Manchester College of Commerce, 3 Mauldeth Road, Manchester 20.

A CATALOGUE OF MINIATURE AND FULL ORCHESTRAL SCORES IN YORKSHIRE LIBRARIES

MR. HAROLD NICHOLS, F.L.A., *Chairman, Yorkshire Group, Reference, Special and Information Section*, writes:

The long-awaited review of this work which appeared in the June number of the RECORD, must obviously have been a great disappointment to all those responsible for the production of the catalogue. Mr. Walker may be intensely interested in music, but one cannot help but feel that a

fairer and more balanced assessment of the work could have been made.

With regard to the Siegfried Idyll entry which Mr. Walker dislikes so much, the work is an arrangement for string quartet of the two principal themes of the Idyll, which Wagner uses in the third act of *Siegfried*. An entry under the title "Quartet movement" would have conveyed nothing of this relationship and might have been misleading since it is known that Wagner did, in 1864, write a string quartet which was never performed and has since disappeared.

We have to agree that Lohengrin has no Spinning chorus, and that the entry "Tristan und Isolde—Prelude" does not contain the words "Concert version". But if Mr. Walker will look at the previous entry, he will find listed the Prelude und Isoldens Liebestod, which is always regarded as the concert version.

Inevitably there will be some inaccuracies in a work of this nature; that there are so few reflects credit on the compiler who cannot be expected to check every item submitted. Mr. Walker has obviously delighted in discovering odd mistakes, but in the main this is a carefully compiled catalogue with brief but adequate and clear entries.

SUBJECT BOOKLISTS ISSUED BY BRITISH PUBLIC LIBRARIES

MAY-JUNE, 1961

Roman Britain: a select list of books . . . 3 p. Bradford P.L.

Church unity: a select list of books . . . 3 p. Bradford P.L.

Architecture. 13 p. Burnley P.L.

The legal profession. 12 p. Burnley P.L.

On the shores of the Mediterranean. 2 p. Buxton P.L.

Cambridgeshire. 57 p. Cambridgeshire Co. L.

A select list of books on astronomy and space travel. 7 p. Carlisle P.L.

You Sew and Sow! 3 p. Eastbourne P.L.

Careers booklist. 16 p. Leeds P.L.

Education: publications of 1960. Book List No. 25. 33 p. Surrey Co. L.

Latin America. 5 p. Surrey Co. L.

Microtext Review 1960

Copies of the Microtext Review of Progress 1960 written by Mr. G. H. Davison of the United Steel Companies, Ltd., are being distributed from Chaucer House. No charge is made for the Review, but librarians requiring a copy are asked to send a self-addressed label with two 6d. stamps (one to cover postage, the other to cover packing and handling costs), to The Librarian and Research Officer, Library Association, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1.

Mr. A. E. Sanderson, B.A., A.L.A., Librarian of Dudley Training College, will speak on *Training College Libraries, their development and prospects* at the L.A. Annual Conference at Hastings, on Tuesday, 19th September, at 2.30 p.m., in the White Rock Lower Hall.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION SPECIAL SUBJECT LISTS

(Edited by Harold Smith, F.L.A.)

The following titles
are available:

No. 30. **Handicapped children in Britain.** (Mrs. W. A. Axford)
52 pages. 4s.

No. 31. **Japan since 1945.**
(G. J. Bontoft) 16 pages. 2s. 6d.

No. 32. **The English newspaper since 1900.** (F. Atkinson)
32 pages. 4s.

No. 33. **New verse in the '30s.**
(B. C. Bloomfield)
22 pages. 3s. 6d.

No. 34. **Solar energy technology.**
(T. Brimelow) 32 pages. 3s. 6d.

No. 35. **The European Common Market and the European Free Trade Association.**
(J. E. Wild) 24 pages. 2s. 6d.

REVIEWS

Books, the teacher and the child. 1961. 26 pp. (Association of Teachers in Colleges and Departments of Education, and the National Book League, 2s.)

It is pleasing to find the Association of Teachers in Colleges and Departments of Education (the professional body concerned with the training of teachers) producing a booklet to encourage the use of books in schools. An attractively-produced pamphlet, it is particularly aimed at young teachers, and should in fact be useful for the student and new teacher in encouraging the view of books as "vital tools of the teaching profession". There are short lists of books to which the book-minded teacher may refer, enterprisingly including some not yet published but unfortunately excluding one of the best pieces of writing on the value of books in schools, the Ministry of Education's *The school library*.

The text is short and in parts valuable. "Unwanted books have a depressing effect . . . get rid of any"—so often forgotten by conservative school librarians. There are details of the School Library Association and the National Book League (neither the Library Association nor the Teacher-Librarian's certificate are mentioned). There are good paragraphs on the design of textbooks and on reviews (although the *School librarian* is not included). Minor eyebrow-raisers include the phrase "finance should not be a difficulty" and "needs no gloss" is a rather sweeping commendation for one of the School Library Association's pamphlets.

The booklet as a whole seems to cry out for a librarian to have read the text and advised on it. It would have been so much better had the School Library Association collaborated in it, with its wide experience of the subject. One would wish that the school librarian had been given a more prominent place in the booklet in these days when the job is moving from the rawest recruit to one of the most responsible members of staff. At the very least we might have had a paragraph or two on the virtues of becoming a school librarian and the facilities available for their training. Again, the services to practising teachers provided by the libraries of the Institutes of Education and the better public libraries (such as textbook libraries, school library service, etc.) should have been mentioned.

No, this pamphlet has its uses for the general student, but it lacks the professional bookman's touch.

DAVID LEE

KEYNES (GEOFFREY). *Tributes on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, with a bibliographical check list of his publications*, 1961. 64 pp., illus., 2 portraits. (Hart-Davis, for the Osler Club of London, £1.)

This belated seventieth birthday tribute arrives four years after the event, but will nevertheless be welcomed by Sir Geoffrey's many friends. It contains brief biographical details, an account of the birthday party held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital at which Sir Russell Brain spoke, and tributes from Mr. W. R. LeFanu, Mr. A. N. L. Munby and Mr. F. B. Adams were distributed in leaflet form. On the same evening a meeting of the Osler Club was held at which Dr. A. White Franklin and Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor made speeches, and all these tributes are now collected together in book form, together with a list of Sir Geoffrey's writings compiled by Mr. W. R. LeFanu. A charming photograph of Sir Geoffrey, a less attractive drawing by Stanley Spencer, and a facsimile of a page from Sir Geoffrey's *Religio bibliographici*, adorn this delightfully produced volume.

Sir Geoffrey Keynes has many facets: surgeon, bibliographer, book-collector, ballet-designer, lecturer and editor. He is best known to librarians as an editor of literary texts, and as the bibliographer of John Donne, John Evelyn, Jane Austen, William Hazlitt, Thomas Fuller, Rupert Brooke, Siegfried Sassoon, William Harvey, John Ray and Robert Hooke. The list of his other publications is also impressive, and this small book will reveal to Sir Geoffrey's admirers in specific fields, something about his contributions to the wider range of literature and medicine in the broadest sense.

JOHN L. THORNTON

KILPATRICK (JAMES JACKSON). *The smut peddlers*. 1961. pp. vi, 323. (Elek, 35s.)

This book is an account of the pornography rackets in the United States, covering traffic in lurid literature, obscene films, postcards and photographs. Its interest to librarians is thus limited because the material described is not generally the kind which falls within their province. The detailed story of the way in which the distribution of this stuff is organized on a nationwide basis, with particular emphasis on the corruption of young people, makes sorry reading.

There are, however, two chapters on the case for and against censorship which are well worth

the librarian's attention. The author tries in his summing-up to steer a middle course between the two points of view, but concludes that "a free society should find nothing inconsistent with its freedom in seeking to keep from its reservoirs the merchants of filth".

J. T. GILLET

McCOLVIN (LIONEL R.). *Libraries for children*. 1961. (Phoenix House, 25s.)

To the experienced children's librarian this work may appear to contain nothing new, but in the foreword Mr. McColvin says:

"It is not to children's librarians so much as to my fellow chief librarians, to members of local authorities and to the general interested public that I address this book."

Children's librarians should, however, be grateful for this sound, reasoned, well-informed and comprehensive account of all aspects of library work with children. Beginning with a brief survey of the child's reading needs, and of literary standards and values, the author passes to a consideration of the fundamentals of good library service to children—its maintenance, staffing and allied activities. He lays special emphasis on the importance of both school and public libraries and the necessity for co-operation between the two in the interests of the child who is, and should be, the adult reader of tomorrow. The book is well-illustrated and there are brief descriptions of children's libraries in Europe and America, which may serve as a stimulus to some authorities in this country.

F. PHYLLIS PARROT

VISWANATHAN (C. G.). *Public library operations and services*. 1961. (London, Asia Publishing House, 30s.)

Professor Viswanathan has written an admirably compact account of the routine processes appropriate to a public lending library, based very considerably on his first-hand observations in this country during an extended visit in 1956. In clear, simple terms he describes the operations involved so that a newly-appointed librarian could with confidence establish a good basic routine on which to base the fine ideals of reader service that the author so rightly stresses. Yet doubts arise as to the validity of such a book, presumably addressed primarily to Indian librarians. Against the immense weight of semi-literacy, the social and linguistic complexities, the very novelty of the public library service, are these methods adequate foundations on which to build a dynamic service? What had been the lessons of the Delhi Public

Library project? It would be a great loss if, with the freedom of choice open to them, the new Indian librarians were slavishly to copy routines without considering most carefully how their own indigenous requirements may make these practices invalid. A basis of routine must, of course, be provided; and to be speedily effective among great numbers of new staff, this is the kind of book to circulate widely. It would, though, imply as an essential element that the readers themselves should not limit their ideas to reading. They must, it would seem, experience these routines in action. Their minds must be exposed to the interplay of professional experiment and debate; and this can, in the long run, only be achieved through travel in countries where public libraries are well established as well as in the emergent African nations.

Two quotations will in themselves encourage those who wish well to the Indian librarians:

"The peculiar joy of serving a reader with just what he wants is indescribable and should be shared by every member of the library staff."

and

"It may appear heterodoxical, that, in a book on library operations and services, greater emphasis should be laid on individual initiative and freedom from rule of thumb than on set directions."

This attitude is true librarianship, as J. D. Brown said in 1892, and is the salvation of a book of routines—otherwise a dangerous offering to the profession, as Professor Viswanathan clearly knows.

R. N. LOCK

Retrieval guide to thermophysical properties research literature. Vol. 1. Books 1-3. Edited by Y. S. Touloukian. 1960, 1250, 169, 372 p. (McGraw-Hill, £46 10s.)

Volume 1 of this Guide makes it possible for a scientist or engineer to search the contents of 10,000 articles containing information on 7 specified thermophysical properties of some 14,240 substances. These properties are (1) thermal conductivity, (2) specific heat, (3) viscosity, (4) emissivity, absorptivity, reflectivity (total and spectral), (5) diffusion co-efficient, (6) thermal diffusivity, and (7) Prandtl number. The whereabouts in the literature of each piece of pertinent information has been stored permanently on magnetic tape by the Thermophysical Properties Research Center which is sponsored by some 28 industrial firms and Government laboratories in the United States. This information is now made generally available by conventional publication in book form.

Subsequent volumes of this work will be published approximately every 12 to 18 months, and each volume will list 10,000 further references. It is anticipated that, with the publication of Volume II, all published information on the above thermophysical properties will have been organized and indexed. With Volume III, the present coverage will be expanded to include a further eight thermophysical properties.

The information contained in Volume I has been obtained primarily from a search of certain abstracting journals. It has been necessary to make corrections to many of the citations and in nearly 30 per cent of the cases it has been necessary to refer to the original article to obtain the necessary information in order to code adequately a bibliographic reference.

Volume I consists of three separately bound books. Book 1 (1250 p.) contains three parts: A, Guide to Substance Classification and Numerical Codes; B, Dictionary of Synonyms and Trade Names; and C, Directory of Substances, arranged in two sections: first, an Alphabetized Formula (or Composition) Directory, and the second, an Alphabetized Name Directory.

Each substance, however described, must be translated into a numerical code, which is then used in Book 2 (Classified Search Index) to obtain a serial number. In Book 3 (Master Bibliography)

the serial number leads the enquirer to the bibliographical reference required. Book 3 also contains an author index.

To retrieve efficiently the maximum information stored in the Retrieval guide, it is necessary to be familiar with the Guide to Substance Classification and Numerical Codes (11 pp.) in Part A of Book 1, and the introductory remarks in Books 2 and 3.

Bearing in mind the price, this book will only be acquired by those likely to use it frequently, and they will need to have access to the requisite literature. It is therefore a book to be used in or near a large library. Although the scientist or engineer working in an isolated laboratory might have preferred to see the experimental results in the 10,000 papers reproduced in the form of tables for quick reference, to those wishing to read the original publications, this book will prove a useful guide to the literature they require.

It should be noted that the arrangement of substance names in the Alphabetized Formula Directory and Alphabetized Name Directory is not purely alphabetical. The headlines to the pages give only the class numbers and it is necessary to find the series and class in which the substance is included (given in Part A), before one can track down any particular substance and its code number.

N. E. PETTIT

Essential Professional Textbooks: F.P.E. and Registration Levels

At the request of an L.A. Moderating Committee, the Association of Assistant Librarians has drawn up a *minimum* list of textbooks that it considers should be in stock in all types of libraries. Books on the history of English literature have been excluded on the grounds that students will have access to the general stock in public libraries.

ALL SUBJECTS

Corbett, E. V.: *The First professional examination*. (A.A.L. Guides.) 1956. 2s. 6d.

Corbett, E. V.: *Introduction to public librarianship*. 2nd ed. 1952. O.P.

Harrison, K. C. *First steps in librarianship*. 2nd ed. Grafton. 21s.

The registration examination. (A.A.L. Guides.) 1955. Reprint 1960. 6s.

Walford, A. J. *A general introduction to the examinations and methods of study*. (A.A.L. Guides.) 1955. 3s. 9d.

CLASSIFICATION

Mann, M. *Introduction to cataloguing and classification of books*. 2nd ed. A.L.A. 1943. \$3.25. (Also needed for cataloguing.)

Phillips, W. H. *Primer of book classification*. A.A.L. O.P. 5th ed. ready summer 1961.

Sayers, W. C. B. *Manual of classification*. 3rd ed., rev. 1959. O.P.

Palmer, B. L., and Wells, A. J. *Fundamentals of library classification*. 1951. O.P.

CATALOGUING

American Library Association: *A.L.A. cataloguing rules for author and title entries*. 2nd ed. Chicago, A.L.A. 1949. \$5.

American Library Association: *A.L.A. rules for filing catalog cards*. Chicago, A.L.A. 1942. \$2.

British Museum: *Rules for compiling the catalogues of printed books*. Rev. ed. 1936. 3s. 3d.

Coates, E. J.: *Subject catalogues*. L.A. 1960. 16s. 6d.

Collison, R. L. *The treatment of special material in libraries*. 1955. (ASLIB Manuals, Vol. 2.) 12s. 6d.

Cutter, C. A.: *Rules for a dictionary catalog*. 4th ed. L.A. 1904. 5s. 6d.

Jolley, L. *The principles of cataloguing*. C. Lockwood. 1960. 15s.

Library Association and American Library Association: *Cataloguing rules: author and title entries*. L.A. 1908. 5s. 6d.

Norris, D.: *Primer of cataloguing*. A.A.L. 1952. 7s. 6d.

Sears, M. E.: *List of subject headings*. 8th ed. New York, H. W. Wilson. 1959. \$5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND DOCUMENTARY REPRODUCTION

Aldis, H. G.: *The printed book*. 3rd ed. C.U.P. 1951. 12s. 6d.

Jennett, S.: *The making of books*. 2nd ed. Faber. 1956. 52s. 6d.

Mallaber, K. A.: *Primer of bibliography*. A.A.L. 1954. 10s.

Mason, D.: *A primer of non-book materials in libraries*. A.A.L. 1958. 15s. (Also needed for Assistance to Readers.)

Willoughby, E. E. *The uses of bibliography* . . . Shoe-string P. through Bailey Bros. 1957. 30s.

ASSISTANCE TO READERS

Collison, R. L.: *Library assistance to readers*. 3rd ed. C. Lockwood. 1960. 13s. 6d.

Cook, M. G.: *The new library key*. H. W. Wilson Co., through Holmes of Glasgow. 1956. 7s. 6d.

Foskett, D. J.: *Assistance to readers in lending libraries*. Clarke. 1952. 12s. 6d.

Foskett, D. J.: *Information service in libraries*. C. Lockwood. 1958. 13s. 6d.

Walford, A. J., and Payne, L. M., eds.: *Guide to reference material*. L.A. 1959. £3.

ADMINISTRATION

Ashworth, W., ed.: *Handbook of special librarianship*. ASLIB. 1955. 50s.

Boas, M., ed.: *A living library*. Calif. U.P. 1957.

Caldwell, W.: *Introduction to county library practice*. A.A.L. 1956. 3s. 9d.

Hewitt, A. R.: *Summary of public library law*. A.A.L. 3rd ed. 1951. 5s. 6d.

Lamb, J. P.: *Commercial and technical libraries*. Allen & Unwin. 1955. 21s. 6d.

Ministry of Education: *Structure of the public library service* (Roberts Committee Report). H.M.S.O. 1959. 3s. 6d.

Munford, W. A.: *Penny rate*. L.A. 1951. O.P.

Murison, W. J.: *The public library*. Harrap. 1955. 10s. 6d.

Vollans, R. F.: *Library co-operation in Great Britain*. N.C.L. 1952. O.P.

Lock, R. N.: *Library administration*. C. Lockwood. 1961. 15s.

LITERATURE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Bernal, J. D.: *Science in history*. Watts. 1954. 42s.

Mason, S. F.: *History of the sciences*. Routledge. 1953. 31s. 6d.

Thornton, J. L., and Tully, R. J.: *Scientific books, libraries and collectors*. L.A. 1954. 18s. 6d. O.P.

LITERATURE OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL IDEAS

Bowle, John: *Western political thought*. Cape. 1947. 25s.

Gettell, R. G.: *History of political thought*. 2nd ed. Allen & Unwin. 1956. 30s.

Sabine, G. H.: *History of political theory*. 3rd ed. Harrap. 1951. 25s.

Lewis, P. R.: *The literature of the social sciences*. L.A. 1960. 21s.

Supplementary List of Recommended Textbooks

Bowers, F.: *Textual and literary criticism*. C.U.P. 1959. 22s. 6d.

Clough, E. A.: *Bookbinding for librarians*. A.A.L. 1957. 20s.

Corbett, E. V.: *Photo-charging*. J. Clarke. 1957. 15s.

Corbett, E. V.: *Public library finance and accountancy*. L.A. 1960. 18s.

Currie, C.: *Be a librarian*. C. Lockwood. 1958. 12s. 6d.

Haines, H. E.: *Living with books*. 2nd ed. 1950. Columbia. \$6.

McColvin, L. R.: *The chance to read*. Phoenix. 1956. 35s.

McMurtrie, D. C.: *The book: the story of printing and bookmaking*. 1943 (1948). O.U.P. 70s.

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LIBRARY BINDINGS

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ROMANCE FICTION

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Midland 6491

Mills, J.: *A modern outline of library classification*. Chapman & Hall. 1960. 36s.

Savage, E. A.: *Manual of book classification and display*. Allen & Unwin. 1947. 12s. 6d.

Singer, C.: *A short history of scientific ideas to 1900*. O.U.P. 1959. 35s.

Williamson, H.: *Methods of book design*. O.U.P. 1956. 45s.

A.A.L. Correspondence Courses

REVISION COURSES, SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, 1961

A limited number of *Registration* and *Final* courses will be available to run from September to December. These short period courses are reserved exclusively for those students who have already sat the examination in the subjects required. Overseas students are ineligible.

The closing date for application is 25th August, or the seventh day after notification of the summer results, whichever is the later.

FULL-LENGTH COURSES, NOVEMBER, 1961—NOVEMBER, 1962

Application for F.P.E., *Registration* and *Final* courses beginning November, 1961 must be completed and returned by 30th September. Full particulars of the courses offered are given in the current edition of the *Students' handbook*.

FORMS, FEES AND ENQUIRIES

Requests for application forms must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope and should be sent to the A.A.L. Hon. Education Officer, Mr. J. S. Davey, F.L.A., 49 Halstead Gardens, Winchmore Hill, London, N.21. The fee for each course, both revision and full length, is £3 10s. Students outside Europe taking full length courses are charged 10s. extra for each course.

Obituaries

CURTIS.—Alfred Charles Curtis, A.L.A., was born in Gloucester in 1889. His first appointment was at Gloucester Public Library as a junior assistant from 1903 to 1908, when he was appointed Sub-Librarian at Grimsby. From 1915 to 1919 he served with the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, being promoted from private to commissioned rank.

After the war he returned to Grimsby and in May, 1925, was appointed the first County Librarian in Lindsey.

In 1937, under an agreement with the Holland County Council, the Lindsey service was extended to cover the Holland area also. Starting as the only employee in 1925, Mr. Curtis was able, before his retirement in 1957, to see the Lindsey and Holland County Library grow into an organization employing a staff of 54, and having a bookstock of over 280,000 volumes, 30 branch libraries and over 700 other service points.

Such was the achievement of A. C. Curtis. A man of quiet manners and few hobbies, he had a fund of unflinching energy and enthusiasm. Those who knew him well will remember him as a rebel, rarely accepting the orthodox, yet giving and expecting a high standard of personal service from those who served under him.

He leaves a widow, two sons and one daughter to whom we extend our condolences.

E. H. ROBERTS

HERBERT.—We regret to note the death of Miss Sylvia Herbert, aged 19, Assistant, Southend-on-Sea Public Libraries, who was involved in a road accident on 8th July.

WILLIAMS.—We regret to announce the death on 28th June of Sir William R. Williams, J.P., a Vice-President of the Wales and Mon. Branch of the L.A., and an Honorary Freeman and ex-Lord Mayor of Cardiff. Among the chairmanships he held for lengthy periods were those of the City Libraries Committee and the Regional Libraries Scheme for Wales and Mon. He also served for many years on the Council of the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, and presided over numerous conferences of public, university and special libraries in the Principality. In tribute to his memory representatives of the Branch attended the Civic Funeral Service in Cardiff on 3rd July.

J. E. THOMAS

Appointments and Retirements

BAKEWELL.—Mr. K. G. B. Bakewell, F.L.A., Librarian, Research Dept., British Plaster Board (Holdings) Ltd., to be Librarian, British Institute of Management.

BULLEN.—Mr. A. S. Bullen, A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Winchester P.L., to be Lending Librarian, Winchester P.L.

BURDETT.—Miss R. Burdett, A.L.A., Assistant, Croydon P.L., to be Assistant, Worthing P.L.

CATTON.—Mr. R. Catton, B.A., A.L.A., Chief Assistant, University of London Library, to be Librarian, Royal Veterinary College (University of London).

CHESTER.—Miss A. E. Chester, A.L.A., Regional Librarian, Trent Valley Region, Nottinghamshire Co.L., to be Librarian-in-Charge, Ramsbottom Region, Lancashire Co.L.

COATES.—Mr. E. J. Coates, F.L.A., Chief Subject Cataloguer, *British National Bibliography*, to be Editor, *British Technology Index*.

DAVIS.—Mr. H. A. Davis, Senior Assistant, Thurrock P.L., to be Assistant Stock Editor, Hampshire Co.L.

FRIEDMAN.—Miss J. Friedman, M.A., A.L.A., Assistant Librarian, University College of North Staffordshire, to be Administrative Secretary and Librarian, Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge.

GAMBLING.—Miss M. F. Gambling, A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Winchester P.L., to be Children's Librarian, Winchester P.L.

HANCOCK.—Mrs. K. Hancock (*née* Flight), Branch Librarian, Newport, County Seely Library, I. of W., to retire.

HARLEY.—Mr. J. Harley, F.L.A., Director, Paramus Free Public Library, Paramus, N.J., U.S.A., to be Librarian, City Hall Library, Hong Kong.

HAVARD-WILLIAMS.—Mr. P. Havard-Williams, M.A., A.L.A., A.N.Z.L.A., Deputy Librarian, Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, to be Librarian, Queen's University, Belfast.

HAYWOOD.—Miss F. M. Haywood, B.A., United States Air Force Library Service, to be Senior Assistant, Institution of Electrical Engineers.

HILL.—Mr. J. E. Hill to be Reference Librarian, Barrow-in-Furness P.L.

HOEY.—Miss J. Hoey, Assistant, Oxford P.L., to be Assistant, Worthing P.L.

JONES.—Miss S. A. E. Jones, Library Assistant, Cheshunt P.L., to be Information Assistant, Leonard Hill Technical Books, Eden St., N.W.1.

KING.—Mr. G. L. King, Branch Librarian, Chase Ter. Br., Staffordshire Co.L., to be Senior Assistant, Circulation Dept., Co. Library H.Q., Staffordshire Co.L.

MITCHELL.—Miss G. Mitchell, A.L.A., Children's Librarian, Aldershot P.L., to be Reference Librarian, Aldershot P.L.

NEWTON.—Miss A. M. Newton, Assistant, Winchester P.L., to be Senior Assistant, Winchester P.L.

RAVILIOUS.—Mr. C. P. Ravilious, Assistant, Westminster P.L., to be Assistant, Hastings P.L.

ROWLEY.—Miss A. E. Rowley, B.A., A.L.A., Music and Drama Librarian, Shropshire Co.L., to be Music and Drama Assistant in the Students' Section, Staffordshire Co.L.

SEEX.—Mr. H. M. Seex, Branch Librarian, Kempston Br., Bedfordshire Co.L., to be Branch Librarian, Peel Green Branch, Eccles P.L.

SMITH.—Mr. F. Smith, F.L.A., Dep. Reference Librarian, Leeds P.L., to be Librarian, British Council, Baghdad.

If Melvil Dewey lived now . . .

We believe he would be pleased that

his work is being carried on by a non-profit-making organization—the Lake Placid Club Education Foundation—which, with its subsidiary, Forest Press Inc., is pledged to administer and perpetuate the DEWEY Decimal Classification in accordance with his wishes.

His Decimal Classification is a living service which is constantly being revised in accordance with present-day needs.

The Library of Congress has undertaken the full-time responsibility of revising the Decimal Classification schedules with great care and complete observance of his wishes by the Editor and a fully qualified professional staff. The Editorial policy is determined by a joint committee of Lake Placid Club Education Foundation and the American Library Association. Wyllis E. Wright, the Chairman of this committee, is also Chairman of the Catalog Code Revision Committee which is working for international agreement on cataloging rules.

Eighty-five years after the (anonymous) publication of the first edition, the DEWEY *Decimal Classification and Relative Index* is now in its 16th (1958) edition, and the 17th edition is in active preparation. *Additions, notes and decisions* being issued quarterly meanwhile to users of Edition 16 who request it, embodying the latest current developments in knowledge and discovery.

The Directors of Forest Press, who include the son of the Founder, the President of the Council on Library Resources, and the Presidents of Stechert-Hafner Co. and the H. W. Wilson Co., constantly keep the needs of different types of library in mind and publish in 1959 the *8th Abridged Edition*, based on Edition 16, of the Decimal Classification.

These Directors regard their obligations as world-wide and, in pursuance of the Founder's ideal of serving all communities, have published a Spanish edition of the *Decimal Classification* for the use of Latin American libraries, and have authorized translations in whole or part in at least twelve languages.

Keeping in mind the particular needs of the English-speaking countries, the Directors seek a close liaison with the British Commonwealth of Nations and have sent delegates to contact the leading interested organizations in Britain.

Recognizing the needs of the schools in the Commonwealth, the Directors have arranged with the School Library Association for the issue this spring of an *Introduction to DEWEY Decimal*

Classification for British schools (price 15s.) prepared by an experienced British librarian with an intimate knowledge of the special needs of this field.

Believing that the interests of universal classification must be fostered by every effort, the Directors continue Melvil Dewey's policy inaugurated 65 years ago, of maintaining close co-operation with the Editors of the Universal Decimal Classification (UDC).

We do not believe that he would be so pleased that

some British classifiers are introducing their own unauthorized additions and alterations to the DEWEY Decimal Classification, and incidentally vitiating some of the most important principles—particularly the simple notation consisting solely of Arabic numerals—on which the Classification is built.

Nevertheless

the Directors look forward confidently to the future. They recognize the imperfections of the Decimal Classification as it now stands, and plan with each succeeding edition to improve it and to make it increasingly more effective and useful.

Now that some 90% of British, Canadian and USA libraries use the DEWEY Decimal Classification, the Directors plan to develop increasingly close co-operation with all users and to create means by which all those interested can play a practical part in making the Decimal Classification a fully efficient tool in the service of librarians, bookmen, and many sections of industry and commerce.

If you are interested in knowing more of the Directors' plans, write now to:

The Secretary,
Forest Press, Inc.,
Lake Placid Club,
Essex County, N.Y., U.S.A.

If you wish to purchase any of the publications mentioned above, write to:

Don Gresswell Ltd.,	W. & R. Holmes Ltd.,
133 Chase Side,	3-11 Dunlop Street,
Enfield, Middlesex.	Glasgow, C.I.
The Woolston Book Co.	
Gamble Street,	
Radford, Nottingham.	

If you have enquiries, suggestions, amendments, etc., to suggest for the attention of the Editor, write to:

The Editor,
Decimal Classification Office,
Processing Department,
The Library of Congress,
Washington, 25, D.C., U.S.A.

Advertiser's Announcement.

SUTTON.—Miss E. Sutton, F.L.A., Branch Librarian, Wymondham, Norfolk Co.L., to be Branch Librarian, Newport, County Seely Library, I. of W.

THOMAS.—Mrs. E. Thomas, A.L.A., Cataloguer, Chester P.L., to be Command Librarian, H.Q. Western Command, Chester.

Appointments Vacant

Chartered Librarians are advised to refrain from applying for any post in England and Wales, demanding Registration qualifications (A.L.A. or F.L.A.) which is advertised at a salary less than £800 per annum.

KENYA GOVERNMENT

Librarian required by KENYA GOVERNMENT, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, on contract for two tours each of 24-27 months in first instance. Commencing salary according to experience in scale (including Overseas Addition), £1,143 rising to £1,776 a year. Gratuity at rate of 25 per cent of total salary drawn. Outfit Allowance, £40. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Generous education allowances. Candidates must be Associate Members of the Library Association. Experience of Medical Libraries an advantage.

Apply to CROWN AGENTS, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1, for application form and further particulars, stating age, name, brief details of qualifications and experience and quoting reference M3C/53531/LAM.

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

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Applications are invited for the following positions in the University Library:

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- (2) SENIOR ASSISTANT FOR REFERENCE WORK;
- (3) SENIOR ASSISTANT IN THE CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT;
- (4) SENIOR ASSISTANT IN THE ACQUISITIONS DEPARTMENT;
- (5) CATALOGUERS;
- (6) GENERAL ASSISTANTS.

Salary ranges are as follows:

Heads of Departments, £1,200-£1,400 per annum.

Senior Assistants, £950-£1,100 per annum.

Assistants, £500-£900 per annum.

Conditions of appointment may be obtained from the Association of Universities of the British Commonwealth, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

Applications close on 31st August, 1961, but will be accepted up to 14th September, 1961, from readers of this journal.

A.E.R.E., HARWELL

ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT, HARWELL, invite applications for junior posts in the main library. Applicants should have G.C.E. at "O" level in four subjects including English Language and Mathematics or a science subject, but applicants with "A" level and the First Professional Examination of the Library Association preferred.

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MUSEUM ASSISTANTS. (a) Four posts in the VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM; (b) three posts in the SCIENCE MUSEUM; and (c) three posts in the SCIENCE MUSEUM LIBRARY for men or women at least 16 on 1st August, 1961, with (normally) G.C.E. or equivalent in four subjects including English Language or English. For (a), interest in art and knowledge of a modern foreign language desirable; for (b), candidates preferred with G.C.E. (or equivalent) pass in mathematics or a science subject; for (c), candidates preferred with G.C.E. (or equivalent) pass in a modern foreign language. One of the Science Museum posts is for a Lecture Demonstrator, to demonstrate scientific apparatus and perform experiments for lecturers; duties involve lecture theatre management, including film projection. Inner London starting salary from £363 (at 16) to £606 (at 25 or over) or, exceptionally, higher for candidates aged at least 26. Scale maximum £778. Promotion prospects. Write Civil Service Commission, Burlington Gardens, London, W.1, for application form, quoting 5351/61. Closing date 11th September, 1961.

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Applications are invited for the post of ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN (age over 21). Duties will include keeping of records, typing and some shorthand. Initial salary within the range £500/£600 per annum. Applications, giving full details, including education and examinations passed, to the Secretary, The London Hospital Medical College, Turner Street, London, E.1, within fourteen days.

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Applications are invited from Chartered Librarians with recent experience in public lending libraries, for the post of LIBRARIAN-IN-CHARGE, at a salary of £960-£1,140 p.a. (APT III) plus London Weighting. Successful applicant may be given the opportunity of holding this position at a newly built library. Particulars and application forms from Town Clerk, Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, S.W.2. Closing date: September 2nd.

BRITISH TECHNOLOGY INDEX

The Library Association requires CATALOGUERS for the new *British Technology Index*, and invites applications from Chartered Librarians. Experience in subject cataloguing, indexing or classification, an alert interest in information retrieval, and a good background knowledge of the subject-matter of science and technology, are among the qualities being sought.

Salary will be within the range £950-£1,070, the commencing salary to be determined according to experience. Contributory superannuation scheme. The *British Technology Index* will begin publication in January, 1962. Applications to reach the Secretary by 8th September, 1961.

Further particulars are obtainable from The Secretary The Library Association, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1.

Contributions and communications (including advertisements) should be sent to the Editor, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, by the 15th of the month preceding that of publication (Tel. Eus. 5856 ext. 9)

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A Sandwich Course lasting eighteen months, for students wishing to complete the present Registration Examination of the Library Association in June, 1963, will commence in January, 1962. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Head of Department of Professional Studies, College of Commerce, Tithebarn Street, Liverpool, 2.

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(J.6927)

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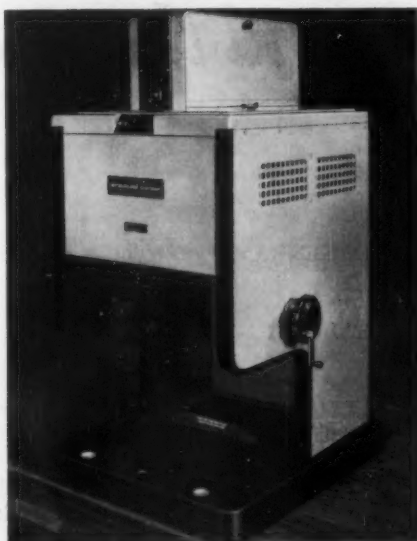
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